

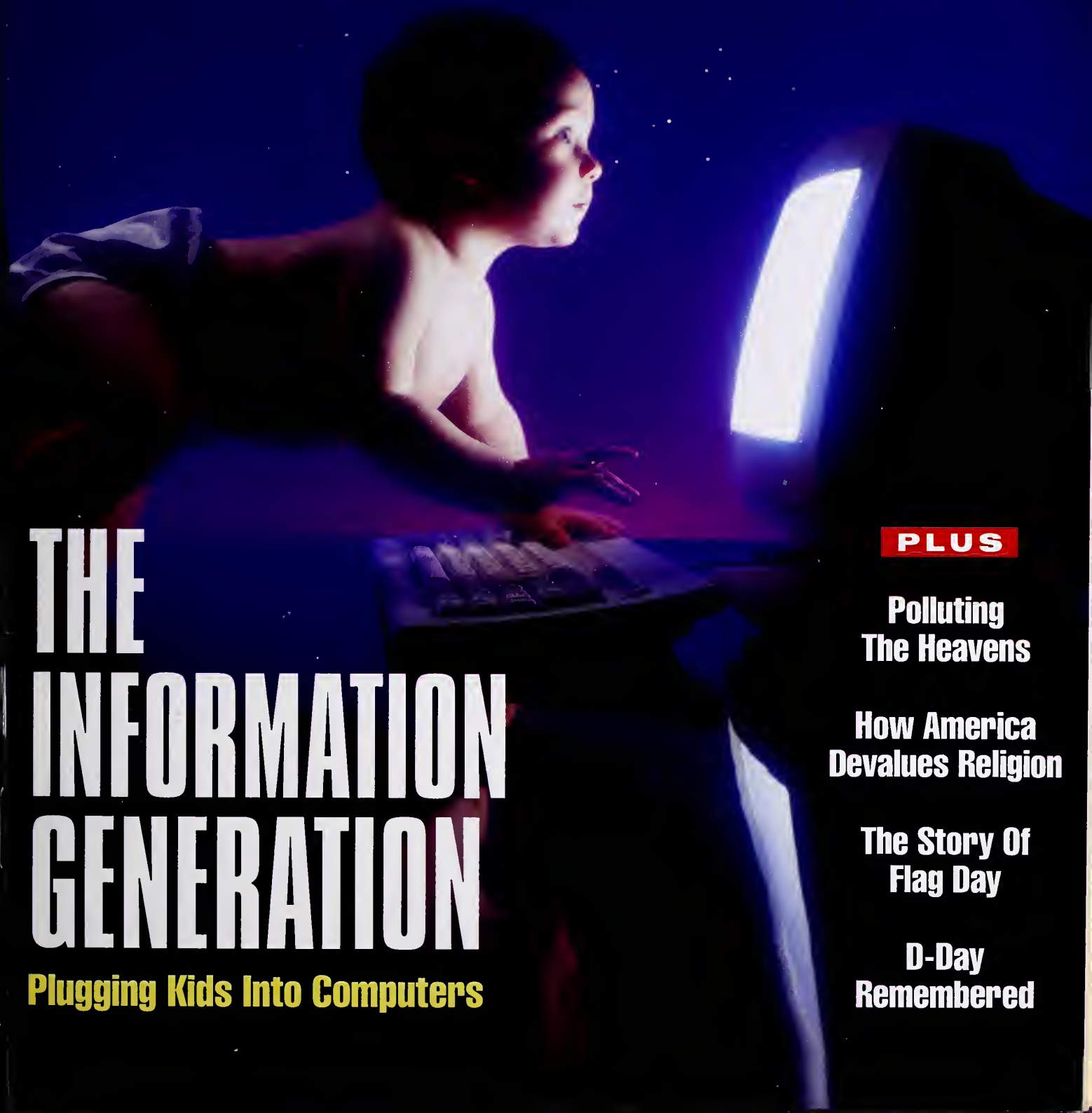
THE AMERICAN LEGION

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

June 1994

Two Dollars

HOW THE GI BILL
WAS WRITTEN
PAGE 34



THE INFORMATION GENERATION

Plugging Kids Into Computers

PLUS

Polluting
The Heavens

How America
Devalues Religion

The Story Of
Flag Day

D-Day
Remembered



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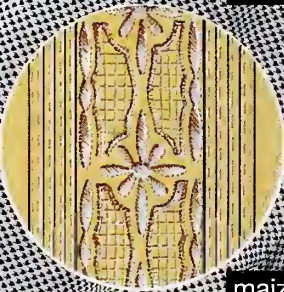
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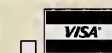
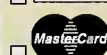
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THE AMERICAN LEGION

The Magazine for a Strong America

Vol. 136, No. 6

June 1994

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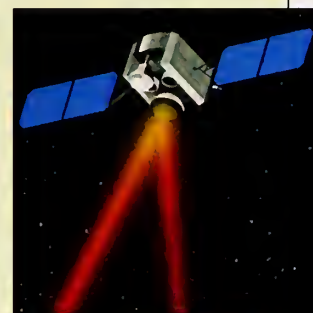
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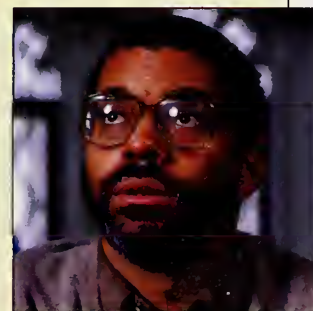
Training toddlers on computers prepares them for a 21st century economy in which information technology — not manufacturing — will offer the most jobs. Plug into Page 23 to download more information about kids and computers. Photograph by Comstock.



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THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE, a leader among national general-interest publications, is published monthly by The American Legion for its 3.1 million members. These military-service veterans, working through more than 15,000 community-level posts, dedicate themselves to God and country and traditional American values; strong national security; adequate and compassionate care for veterans, their widows and orphans; community service; and the wholesome development of our nation's youths.

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THE AMERICAN LEGION



The American Historical Foundation Presents . . .

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The first firing M1911A1 .45 Pistol ever created to honor the brave Americans who served in World War II and the Normandy Invasion



Edition Limit: Only 1,000 Worldwide
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*"Accept nothing
less than full
victory!"*

General Dwight D. Eisenhower
6 June 1944

Operation Overlord. The Longest Day. The Normandy Invasion. It was a day unlike any the world had ever known—or will know again.

Time has not dimmed the memories of 6 June 1944. Now, we remember the valor of those brave Americans of World War II through this issuance of a special limited edition M1911A1 .45 Pistol, the immortal sidearm of Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines.

This is a special opportunity for Veterans and collectors, considering that the .45 is being replaced by the smaller 9mm pistol. As the world's first firing handgun ever issued to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of D-Day, you will not want to miss this historic opportunity.

Strictly Limited Edition of 1,000

This is one of the more restrictive edition limits ever issued on a .45, your assurance of immediate collector and historical value. Each firearm in the edition is serially numbered from 0001 to 1000, with the prefix "D-DAY" as part of the serial number.

If you - or a member of your family - served in World War II, you, in particular, will want to add this .45 to your collection. Of course, not every serviceman served in Normandy, but D-Day was of such paramount importance that this firearm is certainly appropriate in any World War II collection.

24-Karat Gold Plating

This is a museum-quality limited edition of historic significance. The slide and frame are mirror-polished and blued. Deeply etched across the presentation side are historical inscriptions flanked by scrolls reminiscent of the high rolling seas of 6 June 1944. These etchings are gold-gilt infilled in dramatic contrast. Ten components are plat-

ed in genuine 24-Karat Gold: The trigger, hammer, slide stop, magazine catch, magazine catch screw, safety lock and four grip screws.

The grips are custom made of ivory, combined with polymers for split resistance. Inset in both the right and left grips are 24-Karat gold plated cloisonne medallions bearing the SHAEF (Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force) insignia of the combined Allied military forces under General Eisenhower's command.

To safely display your D-Day Commemorative .45 you may reserve the optional, custom-designed American Walnut Display Case. Measuring 14"x 8"x 3" and lined in olive drab cloth, the case is easily wall mounted or displayed flat. The locking glass lid safely protects your investment from dust and unauthorized handling.

Each .45 is being made to full military specifications for this special commemorative edition by the firm of Auto-Ordnance Corporation, and fires .45 ACP ammunition which is readily available in your local gun shop.

How to Reserve

To place your reservation, call our Member Relations Staff, toll free, at 1-800-368-8080 or return the enclosed Reservation. When you reserve you will be made a Member. If you have a Federal Firearms License, please send a signed copy and your D-Day Commemorative .45 will be delivered directly to you. If you do not have a FFL, we will help coordinate delivery with you through your local dealer. Satisfaction is guaranteed or you may return your Commemorative within 30 days for a full refund.

It's been 50 years since American soldiers stormed ashore at Normandy against Hitler's "Fortress Europe." Today the beaches are quiet and peaceful and those brave boys are retired gentlemen. On 6 June 1994 the world will honor them and their generation for a day. The 1,000 D-Day Commemorative .45s owned by Foundation Members will live on today and tomorrow as lasting symbols of our pride in the generation of Americans who served in World War II, fighting "The Good War."

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In English

I was appalled to read how Hispanic immigrants participated in a naturalization ceremony conducted in Spanish ("The Campaign Against English," February, by Gary Turbak). I remember my grandfather telling us, "English will get you the job." English should be the official language of the United States.

*Louella R. Garcia
Albuquerque, N.M.*

You do not go to Europe and become American-Irish or American-French. I bet when you go to Germany, the books are not printed in two languages. If you know 10 different languages, all the more power to you, but don't cram it down my throat.

*R.J. Murphy
Garfield, N.J.*

As a first-generation American, I believe culture and heritage should be taught at home, not in school.

*John C. Gibilisco
Omaha, Neb.*

We may be a salad instead of a melting pot now, but we need English as the salad dressing to hold us all together.

*Maxine Leffler
Champaign, Ill.*

Lies, Deceit & POWs

I praise your magazine for having the courage to publish the truth about the POW/MIA issue ("Beyond Hope," March, by Mark Sauter and Jim Sanders). It gives me hope that we can once again see freedom of the press. I pray that the American public, through magazines like yours, will wake up before it is too late. My husband, Col. David L. Hrdlicka, is one of the abandoned POWs. He was a "Known Alive — Not Returned."

*Carol Hrdlicka
Conway Springs, Kan.*

We are close friends with the Hrdlicka family and Jane Duke Gaylor. I applaud the national organization for their strong efforts in behalf of our missing Americans and would like to see the local Legion Posts pitching in,

too. We would make a big difference if all Legionnaires stood together.

*The Kahmeyer Family
Derby, Kan.*

The article in the March issue confirms what most of us have always known. The Defense Department lied. The politicians lied. And the liberal press lied.

*James A. Cloyd
Jackson, Miss.*

America's failure to fully and truthfully account for all POW/MIAs is disgraceful. The Legion's position on this issue is one reason why I am proud to be a member, and I wholeheartedly support the Legion's plan to protect POW/MIAs in future wars.

*P. David West Sr.
North Creek, N.Y.*

The remarks about Sen. Bob Smith's appearance obscured the efficacy of his lobbying effort for POW/MIAs. Sen. Smith diligently supports veterans groups and families,

but the rest of the Senate chooses to do otherwise by favoring normalization with Vietnam.

*Carol Rames
Washington, D.C.*

I urge Legionnaires to boycott any U.S. company that does business in Vietnam. We should publish the names of these companies. When we, as Legionnaires, stand up, then other veterans will want to stand with us.

*Mike Gagnon
Laconia, N.H.*

Sen. Kerry's POW/MIA hearings were a slap in the face to all veterans who went to war for their country.

*Mark J. Andreas
Brockway, Pa.*

Kerry swore that he was going to make it his last mission to search out and destroy the last vestiges of the Vietnam War. Kerry was given the opportunity and the subpoena power to run a commission to do whatever he had to do to find out if there were more POWs left over there. Yet, Kerry sided with those who wanted to normalize relations with the Vietnamese.

I find it inconceivable that members of Congress would allow our men to languish in prisons and die because of trade. Those SOBs in Congress should hang their heads in shame.

*Don Sibiga
Hampstead, Md.*

Floating Memories

William Matthews' article "Lock Out" (March) should be required reading for every high school class in America. It was a surprise to see a photograph of the old Panama Rail-

Please turn page

Clarification

In May's Washington Watch column, the item "Rap Sheet" gave an incorrect reason for protests against Sony and Time Warner. Anti-drug activists are objecting to pro-marijuana lyrics in rap songs on the companies' record albums, not to the use of rap lyrics in ads.

WE WANT YOUR OPINIONS

THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE welcomes letters to the editor concerning articles that appear in the publication. Be sure to include a daytime phone number for verification. Short letters are more likely to be published, and all letters are subject to editing for clarity and brevity. Volume precludes individual acknowledgements of comments on editorial content.

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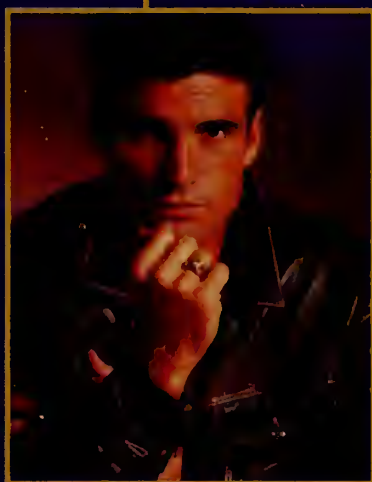
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way ship *SS Ancon*. During World War II, this ship was converted to an amphibious force flagship. I remember in December 1945 riding her home through the Panama Canal to Norfolk, Va. The *Ancon* had wooden weather decks and the largest refrigerated compartment of any ship her size in the Navy. It was a joy to serve on her.

*Ben Souler
Prescott, Ariz.*

I served in the Canal Zone in the U.S. Army from 1954 to 1956. Unless Panamanian technology has greatly increased since that time, I believe the canal will be completely impassable within two years after the Panamanians take control.

*John F. Phillips
Godfrey, Ill.*

Road To Rome

About Sid Moody's article, "Rolling to Rome" (February). Moody is a distinguished writer and reporter, but he read the wrong books for his conclusions. To say that General Mark Clark's forces could have trapped the retreating German army shows a total ignorance of warfare and the problems the Americans faced.

While we prevented the British from joining our forces, it is ridiculous to say, as Moody does, that Clark "had threatened to shoot any British sol-

diers who tried to beat him to Rome." In all of my interviews with the general, I never heard him make such a comment. After putting up with the British delays all during the battle of Salerno and other places, Clark rightly wanted the liberation of Rome to be an American victory.

*Wendell C. Phillippi
Indianapolis*

Editor's note: Wendell Phillippi, a retired Army major general and a newspaper editor, was a captain in the campaign to Rome.

"Rolling to Rome" left a bit to be desired. Moody states that Monte Cassino was mistakenly believed to be fortified. It certainly was armed with many German 88 field guns pointing right down the throats of our ground troops. That's why they couldn't get up the mountain!

*Norm Bergdall
Elida, Ohio*

Grateful Returns

In the flood of '93, we were totally destroyed. We lost our homes, our belongings, our friends, our church, our school, our way of life — everything. We received so much help from so many caring people. Our Auxiliary Unit is small, but we want to con-

tribute to the National Emergency Fund because we were helped in our time of need.

*Luella Russell
Treasurer, Auxiliary Unit 901
Valmeyer, Ill.*

Two-sided Technology

In "Riding the Info Express" (March), George Gilder points out all the great things we will experience in the future through technology. On the other hand, the article, "Check Fraud," by Gary Turbak in that issue points out that technology can be used to rob billions of dollars each year. We should approach these new areas very cautiously.

*Earl M. Gehm
Phoenixville, Pa.*

The Un-COLA

On Dec. 10, 1993, the defense finance and accounting service notified 1.8 million military retirees that their COLA would be delayed three months. It is hard to understand how the leaders of this country can justify taking away from military retirees, while giving billions to the Russians, who were our archenemies for years. [For more about COLAs, see Veterans Update, Page 38.]

*William A. Cieciek
Marysville, Mich.*

KOREAN WAR MEMORIES

THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE invites Korean War veterans and their families to write us about "My most vivid memory of the Korean War."

We will select some of the best letters and publish them in a special article to coincide with the dedication of the Korean War Veterans Memorial in 1995. Writers of letters used in the magazine will be paid \$50. Letters should be no longer than 200 words.

Those letters and several hundred more also will be selected for a book on the Korean War similar to *Voices: Letters From World War*

II, in which our readers told of their experiences during World War II.

Writers whose letters have been selected for the magazine or the book will be notified by mail. Letters in the Korean War volume will be published only after the writers grant their permission. Because of the heavy volume of mail expected, we will be unable to acknowledge or answer letters.

Send your letters to:

**KOREAN WAR MEMORIES
THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE
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Indianapolis, IN 46206**

Baseball & Buick

I was athletic officer for 26 years, overseeing Legion Baseball. I'm writing to say God bless Buick for helping Legion ball ("Buick Offers \$400 Rebate; Baseball Program Benefits," Legion News, March). What a deal — buy a Buick, help Legion Baseball.

*Lou Gatto
State College, Pa.*

Firing Line

Congress is considering more than a dozen restrictive gun and ammo laws. You and your family are about to lose your means of defense against violent criminals. Criminology profes-

Please turn page

Every man over 50 should take this **PROSTATE TEST**

Please answer the following questions:

YES NO

☐☐

Do you urinate often, especially during the night?

☐☐

Do you have trouble starting your urine stream?

☐☐

Do you have a weak or interrupted urine stream?

☐☐

Does it feel like your bladder isn't emptying completely?

If you answered "yes" to any question, you should see your doctor. You may be experiencing the symptoms of a condition called benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH), which is an enlargement of the prostate gland.

Affecting one out of three men over the age of 50, symptomatic BPH can be caused by a *tightening* of muscles inside the prostate. These tightened muscles can slow the flow of urine, leading to the kinds of urinary symptoms described above.

There are three basic treatment options for symptomatic BPH: "watchful waiting," which entails having regular checkups over time; surgery; and medication.

HYTRIN: A New Treatment Option

HYTRIN is a once-a-day medication that can rapidly treat bothersome BPH symptoms. HYTRIN works by *relaxing* the

muscles that have tightened in the prostate, increasing urine flow and decreasing urinary symptoms. With HYTRIN, you can see improvement in 2 to 4 weeks.

HYTRIN can cause a sudden drop in blood pressure at the beginning of treatment (or if you miss doses and then start taking the medication again). You may feel dizzy, faint, or "light-headed," particularly after getting up from a chair or bed.

If you have any urinary symptoms, see your doctor. Only your doctor can properly diagnose symptomatic BPH (or other conditions such as prostate cancer).

And, only your doctor can treat your bothersome BPH symptoms with HYTRIN. For **FREE** information on symptomatic BPH and HYTRIN, please call **1-800-888-9993**

Please see patient information on adjacent page.

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ASK YOUR DOCTOR
TODAY ABOUT

HYTRIN[®]
(terazosin HCl)

HYTRIN®

(terazosin HCl)

PATIENT INFORMATION ABOUT HYTRIN® (HI-TRIN)

Generic Name:
terazosin (ter-A-zo-sin)
hydrochloride

When used to treat BENIGN PROSTATIC HYPERPLASIA (BPH)

Please read this leaflet before you start taking HYTRIN. Also, read it each time you get a new prescription. This information should NOT take the place of a full discussion with your doctor. You and your doctor should discuss HYTRIN and your condition before you start taking it and at your regular check-ups.

HYTRIN is used to treat benign prostatic hyperplasia or BPH. HYTRIN is also used to treat high blood pressure (hypertension). This leaflet describes HYTRIN only as a treatment for BPH.

What is BPH?

The prostate is a gland located below the bladder. It surrounds the urethra (you-REETH-rah), which is a tube that drains urine from the bladder. BPH is an enlargement of the prostate gland. The symptoms of BPH, however, can be caused by an increase in the tightness of muscles in the prostate. If the muscles inside the prostate tighten, they can squeeze the urethra and slow the flow of urine. This can lead to symptoms such as:

- a weak or interrupted stream when urinating
- a feeling that you cannot empty your bladder completely
- a feeling of delay when you start to urinate
- a need to urinate often, especially at night, or
- a feeling that you must urinate right away.

Treatment options for BPH

There are three main treatment options for BPH:

- Program of monitoring or "Watchful Waiting". Some men have an enlarged prostate gland, but no symptoms, or symptoms that are not bothersome. If this applies, you and your doctor may decide on a program of monitoring including regular check-ups, instead of medication or surgery.
- Medication. There are different kinds of medication used to treat BPH. Your doctor has prescribed HYTRIN for you. See "What HYTRIN does" below.
- Surgery. Some patients may need surgery. Your doctor can describe several different surgical procedures to treat BPH. Which procedure is best depends on your symptoms and medical condition.

What HYTRIN does

HYTRIN relaxes the tightness of a certain type of muscle in the prostate and at the opening of the bladder. This may increase the rate of urine flow and/or decrease the symptoms you are having.

- HYTRIN helps relieve the symptoms of BPH. It does NOT change the size of the prostate, which may continue to grow. However, a larger prostate

does not necessarily cause more or worse symptoms.

- If HYTRIN is helping you, you should notice an effect on your particular symptoms in 2 to 4 weeks of starting to take the medication.
- Even though you take HYTRIN and it may help you, HYTRIN may not prevent the need for surgery in the future.

What you should know while taking HYTRIN for BPH

WARNINGS

HYTRIN Can Cause A Sudden Drop in Blood Pressure After the VERY FIRST DOSE. You may feel dizzy, faint, or "light-headed" particularly after you get up from bed or from a chair. This is more likely to occur after you've taken the first few doses, but can occur at any time while you are taking the drug. It can also occur if you stop taking the drug and then re-start treatment.

Because of this effect, your doctor may have told you to take HYTRIN at bedtime. If you take HYTRIN at bedtime but need to get up from bed to go to the bathroom, get up slowly and cautiously until you are sure how the medicine affects you. It is also important to get up slowly from a chair or bed at any time until you learn how you react to HYTRIN. You should not drive or do any hazardous tasks until you are used to the effects of the medication. If you begin to feel dizzy, sit or lie down until you feel better.

- You will start with a 1 mg dose of HYTRIN. Then the dose will be increased as your body gets used to the effect of the medication.
- Other side effects you could have while taking HYTRIN include drowsiness, blurred or hazy vision, nausea, or "puffiness" of the feet or hands. Discuss any unexpected effects you notice with your doctor.

Other important facts

- You should see an effect on your symptoms in 2 to 4 weeks. So, you will need to continue seeing your doctor to check your progress regarding your BPH and to monitor your blood pressure in addition to your other regular check-ups.
- Your doctor has prescribed HYTRIN for your BPH and not for prostate cancer. However, a man can have BPH and prostate cancer at the same time. Doctors usually recommend that men be checked for prostate cancer once a year when they turn 50 (or 40 if a family member has had prostate cancer). These checks should continue even if you are taking HYTRIN. HYTRIN is not a treatment for prostate cancer.
- About Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA). Your doctor may have done a blood test called PSA. Your doctor is aware that HYTRIN does not affect PSA levels. You may want to ask your doctor more about this if you have had a PSA test done.


How to take HYTRIN

Follow your doctor's instructions about how to take HYTRIN. You must take it every day at the dose prescribed. Talk with your doctor if you don't take it for a few days, you may have to restart it at a 1 mg dose and be cautious about possible dizziness. Do not share HYTRIN with anyone else; it was prescribed only for you.

Keep HYTRIN and all medicines out of the reach of children.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT HYTRIN AND BPH, TALK WITH YOUR DOCTOR, NURSE, PHARMACIST OR OTHER HEALTH CARE PROVIDER.

Ref. 03-4458-R1-Revised Sept., 1993

 **Abbott Laboratories**
North Chicago, IL 60064

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VETVOICE

sor Gary Kleck of Florida State University states that about 2.1 million crimes are thwarted by decent citizens with guns. But noncompliance with restrictive gun laws will subject you to criminal prosecution, prison and confiscation of your property. Get every voting-age member of your family to write your federal and state legislators.

*Raymond Zukor
Middletown, N.Y.*

Alternative Alternative

Although I applaud Steve Salerno's article, "Alternative Medicine" (April), he didn't mention osteopathy.

Osteopath doctors (D.O.s) are trained in all aspects of health care. Osteopathy is a system of medical care that combines the needs of the patient with current practices of medicine. But this approach includes an appreciation of the body's ability to heal itself. D.O.s look at the whole person, not just the specific ailing part, and they stress the importance of a healthy lifestyle. Osteopaths offer a holistic alternative to those seeking health care.

Grant C. Schmidt
Athens, Ohio

Outstanding Articles

The magazine outdid itself in April with the outstanding articles, "Third World America," "Politically Correct Or Else," "A Campus Correctness Crusade" and "The Values of Truth." Unfortunately, the people who should read these articles, in all probability, do not receive our magazine. Congratulations for doing our nation a service by these articles' publication.

*Robert J. Bauhofer
Bergenfield, N.J.*

Interviews, Too

Don't ever forget your interview series. These articles are a truly great service to readers. I remember especially the ones with Arthur M. Schlesinger Jr. ("Stop Pulling America Apart," December) and Zbigniew Brezezinski ("America's Crisis of the Spirit," January).

*Steve Burke
Savannah, Ga.* □

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MORE AMERICANS SHOULD VALUE MILITARY SERVICE

FIFTY YEARS ago this month, on June 6, 1944, America and its allies launched history's largest amphibious landing: D-Day, the World War II invasion of Normandy.

Our GIs assaulted the beaches on slow moving ships that had to travel through a hailstorm of German bullets and artillery. They had to wade through waters littered with the bodies of their fallen buddies only to find the skies raining ammo and the smell of death.

But they fought on and on until the battle was won and the Germans were defeated. They set the stage for the Allies' victory in World War II.

Most people are willing to celebrate the 50th anniversary of a battle or the commemoration of a war that left the world a little better off than it found it. But the bottom line is that more Americans should value military service in the ways that count.

Military Readiness. There needs to be a better understanding of what buying new military weapons and equipment represents. When military budgets work their way through Congress, there are always cries to spend the money elsewhere, particularly on social programs.

Don't people realize why new weapons and equipment for the military are so important? The lives of young GIs who will be asked to serve in future wars or peacekeeping missions are at stake. Someone's son or daughter, mother or father is depending on our country to field the best force with the best equipment. And that costs money.

We, as veterans, have to speak up when interest groups peddle sob stories to grab money from the defense budget. The Legion is committed to charity, families and children. But we also realize the necessity of a strong military, and our nation's responsibility to equip it with everything it needs



Nat'l. Cmdr. Bruce Thiesen

to win wars with minimum casualties.

One example of a necessary military item is a new protective vest made of Du Pont's new Kevlar KM2 aramid fiber used by the U.S. Army's 75th Ranger Regiment in Somalia.

According to *Armed Forces Journal International*, a U.S. "Ranger was hit directly in the chest with an RPG-7 anti-armor rocket. Although the unexploded round drove the soldier through a wall, he was not seriously hurt. Another Ranger was struck in the back by 7.62 mm rounds, but survived with two pancake-size bruises."

These Rangers and others are alive because of this new technology. How can we put a price on that?

In Congress, debates often question defense spending and overlook what's really on the line. Every member of our military should have access to this protective vest. There are many other weapons and equipment that make our military stronger and our troops better able to avoid casualties. That, fellow Legionnaires, is money well spent.

Would you want your son or daughter to go into combat and face

enemy fire without this vest?

There needs to be an understanding that military spending for equipment is really about people — about saving American lives when war comes.

Americans who support a strong U.S. Armed Forces value military service in one of the ways that counts.

Helping Families. Having members of the family in the service is a sacrifice. They can be called away at any time, and sent to dangerous places for a long stay. They must leave their families and their jobs. Some don't come home whole, and others don't come home at all.

Veterans do all of this for our country. But who remembers their hardship and bravery?

Military retirement pay and veterans benefits are today being compared to welfare. They are being called handouts, and some in Congress are trying to wield the budget ax in their direction. This is nonsense.

Military retirement pay and veterans benefits are earned by Americans who take a part of their life and give it in the service of the United States. These benefits are the small "thank you" they receive for their patriotism and sacrifices.

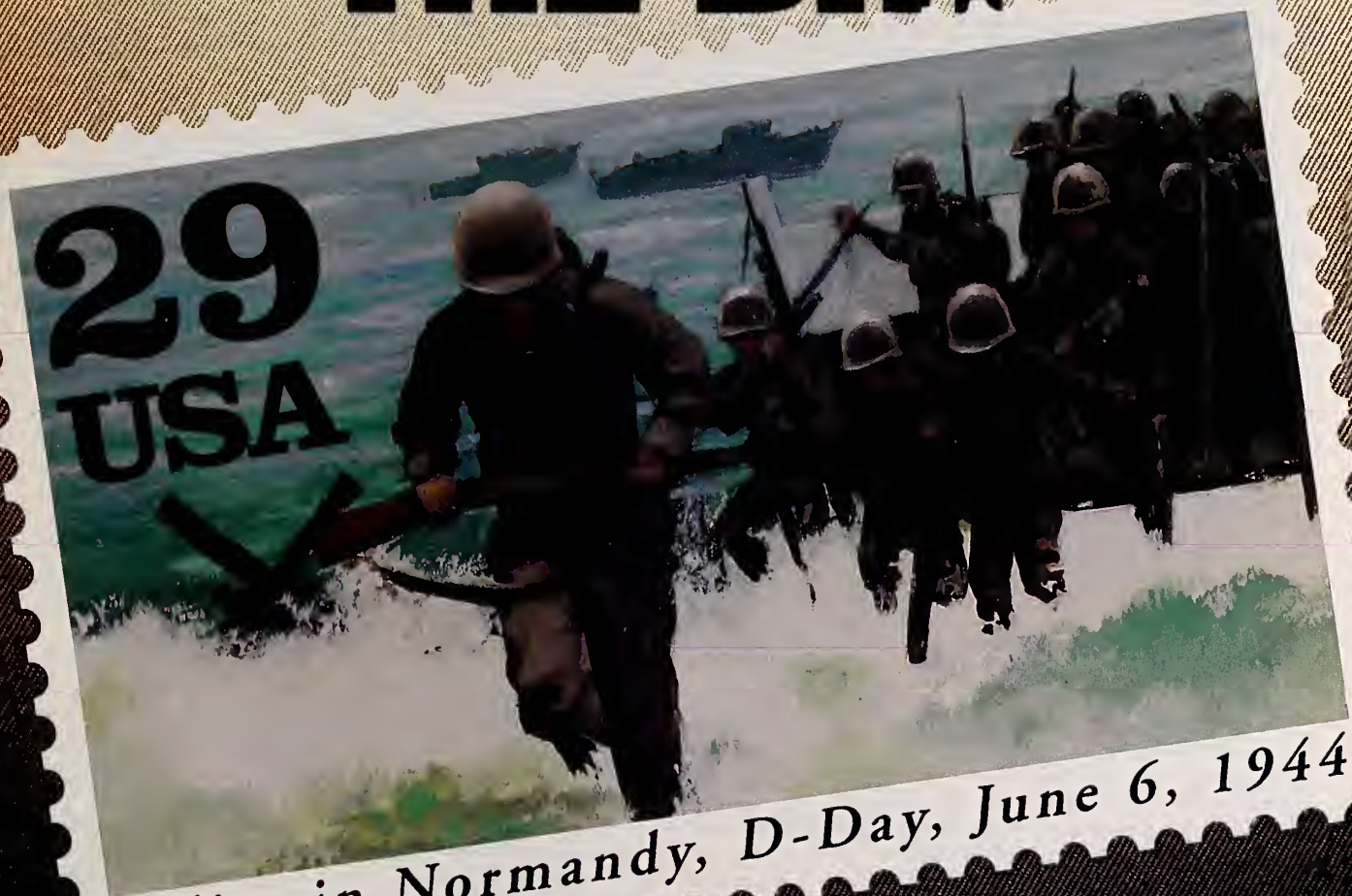
Those who support military retirement pay and veterans benefits honor military service in one of the ways that counts.

Jobs. And one of the finest ways to value military service is to hire a veteran when you have a job opening. Many employers don't think very highly of the military experience. College training is easy to sell, but there are a lot of people who can't or don't appreciate military training and leadership.

People who hire veterans value military service in one of the ways that counts.

As we remember D-Day, let's remind America about the sacrifices of veterans and their families. We must remember so the world will not forget. □

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SHOULD CONGRESS PASS A 'THREE-STRIKES-AND-OUT' LAW AGAINST CRIMINALS?

Rep. Bob Livingston (R-Louisiana)

Why should we have three-time loser laws to put habitually violent criminals in prison for the rest of their lives?

YES



Here are three sad stories, and lots of terrible statistics:

Kristin Huggins, a 22-year-old graphic artist from the Philadelphia area, was abducted Dec. 17, 1992, from the parking lot of a private club where she had gone to paint a mural. She was shot twice in the head and buried by her killer. The alleged murderer had been in jail 44 times for multiple rapes and armed robberies. He laughed at his indictment.

Kristin Lardner, 21, a student at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, was murdered on the street by ex-boyfriend Michael Cartier on May 30, 1992. Cartier had a long record of arrests and convictions, including several for incidents of violence toward girlfriends. But Cartier was repeatedly released "on probation."

Then, just a few months ago, 12-year-old Polly Klaas was abducted from a slumber party and murdered by another multiple violent offender.

Under the LIFER (Life Imprisonment for Egregious Recidivists) bill I first introduced in Congress in 1992, we may keep some of these vicious criminals off the streets. Similar legislation in all 50 states would put a huge dent in the abilities of criminals to find more victims like Kristin Lardner, Kristin Huggins and Polly Klaas.

The bill is very simple. Anyone convicted of a federal violent felony who has two previous violent felony convictions — federal, state, or local — will be jailed for life.

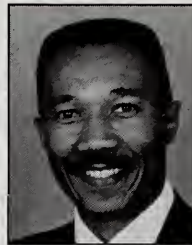
The statistics supporting this approach are compelling. For instance, just 6 percent of all criminals commit 70 percent of all violent crimes. Those arrested for violent offenses average 9.4 prior arrests each. Ten percent of all violent criminals *each* commit more than 600 crimes per year.

The "three-strikes" approach passed, 76 percent to 24 percent, in a public referendum in Washington state. It passed the U.S. Senate, 91-1.

All of these supporters know the statistics. They recognize that our revolving-door prison system is a disgrace.

Victims' rights must come first. When it comes to violent criminal activity, three strikes should mean that someone is out — out of chances and out of society for good. ☐

Rep. Kweisi Mfume (D-Maryland)



NO

Although the Clinton administration's version of "three strikes you're out" is not as dangerous as the Senate-passed version, it is still bad public policy.

A measure similar to this was passed recently by voters in Washington state. The law targets criminals with three violent felonies on their record. The problem

with "three strikes you're out" is that it takes away the discretion of the judge to evaluate the crime and the circumstances of each individual crime in determining a fair sentence.

For more than a decade now, it has become popular to use catchy phrases like "three strikes you're out" and to call for more prisons and enacting tougher sentencing guidelines.

But we can't build the prisons fast enough to house new convicts. Currently only about 5 percent of criminals are serving sentences and this amount is so large that our prisons are dangerously overcrowded. Throwing billions of dollars more on jails will not solve the crime problem. It is the equivalent of spending AIDS prevention dollars on graveyards.

The Congressional Black Caucus and the Hispanic Caucus have drafted an Alternative Crime Bill that addresses the causes and roots of crime and represents a reasonable, thoughtful approach to reducing crime in our country. It includes providing for a full and expanded Head Start program, safe schools, drug treatment and job training.

The Alternative Crime Bill eliminates mandatory minimum sentences for crimes while the Senate bill imposes more arbitrary mandatory minimum sentences. The Alternative Crime bill allows for on-demand drug treatment for all, while the Senate version establishes a federal death penalty for drug offenses not resulting in death. In fact, the Senate bill has 50 new ways to kill people and not enough ways to save them.

The Alternative Crime bill allows victims of crime to be compensated for their losses and strengthens provisions for crimes against women. It contains strong police brutality provisions, strengthens habeas corpus guidelines, places more officers on the streets and bans automatic weapons.

We need more emphasis on education. An educated child has more options in life and therefore is less likely to choose

a no-win career of crime. We should also provide drug addicts with treatment, not just incarceration. The time to get smart about crime is now. The time for slogans has past. ☐

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Cash For Convicts

A crackdown is coming on federal subsidies to criminals and inmates. At the Supreme Court, Chief Justice William Rehnquist is considering cutting funds for anti-death penalty "resource centers" through the budget of the Judicial Conference which he heads. On Capitol Hill, Rep. Bart Gordon of Tennessee is picking up support for ending educational Pell grants for prisoners, estimated to cost as much as \$200 million annually.

Meanwhile, Indiana Rep. Andy Jacobs is trying to close a loophole in the Social Security system which lets killers who beat the rap through insanity pleas get benefits for their "disability." In one case, for instance, the insane killer of four received \$530 a month while housed in a public institution. He spent the cash on dress pants, summer shirts, leather jackets and even a motorcycle.

Dietary Ban

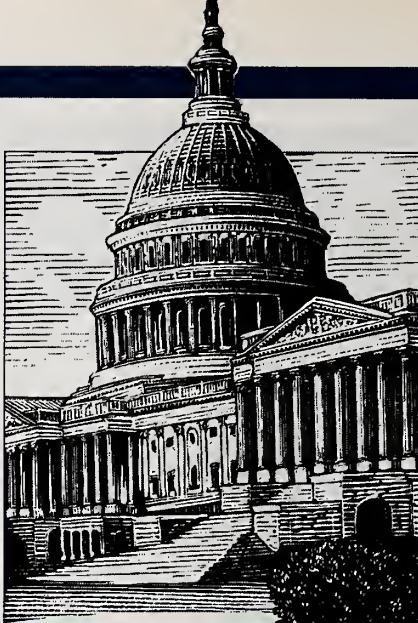
Despite majority support in both houses of Congress, the Hatch-Richardson bill preventing government regulation of the food supplement industry appears doomed. Supporters of the bill, named for sponsors Rep. Bill Richardson of New Mexico and Sen. Orrin Hatch of Utah, are now talking about a compromise before a crucial July 1 deadline. That's when the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is set to outlaw most health claims for dietary supplements.

Insiders say the key problem is Rep. Henry Waxman of California, chairman of the House Subcommittee for Health and Environment. Waxman supports the FDA's power grab and has refused to permit the bill to come up for a vote. Meanwhile, a report by the Alliance for Aging Research urges the FDA to approve claims that vitamins E, C and beta carotene are effective in preventing cancer, heart disease and other conditions.

'Deadly' Weight

Bewilderment has given way to grass roots anger over a proposal by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to outlaw certain fishing sinkers as a possible threat to birds who acci-

Washington-based Cliff Kincaid writes for Human Events and other publications.



WASHINGTON WATCH

By Cliff Kincaid

dently swallow them and die. The EPA wants to prohibit sinkers containing lead and zinc "one inch and smaller in any dimension regardless of type or shape." The EPA proposal would make it an environmental crime to manufacture, import, process and distribute the sinkers.

The EPA ban also would include home-made sinkers on the grounds that lead is harmful to humans. While the goal of saving birds is laudable, critics say the EPA did not produce evidence of widespread harm caused by the sinkers. They also believe the prohibition is unenforceable unless the "green police" of the EPA's Criminal Investigation Division are prepared to patrol local fishing holes and follow the culprits back to the "scene" of the crime — their homes.

Secret Weapons...

Intelligence experts believe the Russians are still developing germ warfare agents in violation of international law. South Carolina Rep. Floyd Spence, a member of the House Armed Services Committee, publicly confirmed in March that biological weapons research in Russia was "continuing" and that U.S. concern was growing.

But U.S. officials are said to be reluctant to press the issue publicly

because it might serve to undermine Russian President Boris Yeltsin by demonstrating his inability to control the Russian military. Also, it could lead to the embarrassing disclosure that the United States has no defense against the deadly new weapons.

Meanwhile, there is increasing speculation that Gulf War Syndrome, the collection of mysterious ailments afflicting Gulf War veterans, is the result of Soviet biological agents that were delivered to Iraq. This might explain why the agents were not picked up by chemical monitoring stations and why the ailments can apparently spread to spouses and cause birth defects in children of Gulf War veterans.

...Zhirinovsky's Threat

When Russian nationalist leader Vladimir Zhirinovsky boasted of a "secret weapon" several months ago, most observers dismissed it as an empty threat. Zhirinovsky invited ridicule by calling it an "Elipton weapon" more powerful than nuclear arms and "capable of destroying the West" through noise.

But Zhirinovsky cannot be dismissed as just a buffoon. Veteran Kremlin watcher Albert Weeks, professor emeritus at New York University, cites evidence from former Kremlin officials and intelligence defectors that Zhirinovsky has long-standing ties to the former KGB and held the rank of captain in its active reserve.

One expert who takes Zhirinovsky's threat seriously is Dr. J. Michael Waller of the American Foreign Policy Council, who says the weapon is biological or chemical in nature. He points to a recent trial in Russia involving Vil Mirzayanov, a military scientist who disclosed state secrets, including the existence of "Novichok." Reported to be the most lethal poison ever developed, Novichok is five to 10 times as deadly as anything currently in world arsenals. Mirzayanov also claimed Western aid has been diverted toward developing the new weapon.

Coincidentally, the *Sunday Times* of London has broken the story of a new "super plague" weapon also being developed by Russian military scientists. The *Times* said three defectors, one to the CIA and two to Britain's MI6, confirmed the clandestine project. □

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CLASS ACT—Carole Fairweather gives historical tours of the one-room schoolhouse that was the site of the first Flag Day.

WHERE FLAG DAY WAS BORN

By Ray Mahon

FOR MANY people caught up in the daily hassles of life in Big City America, June 14 often comes and goes with not much more than a whimper.

Most often it is left up to small towns and rural communities — where life slows down to a saner pace — to ensure that Flag Day is duly noted.

Take, for example, Waubeka, Wis., population 500. In this farming community 28 miles north of Milwaukee, Flag Day ranks right behind Christmas as the most celebrated day of the year.

The folks from Waubeka, Wis., are mighty proud of their tiny town, where a 109-year-old, patriotic tradition began.

.....

Each year, on the second Sunday in June, the residents of Waubeka honor the flag and the father of Flag Day with ceremonies and a giant parade in a celebration that draws Americans from all over the country. On that day, Waubeka's population swells to

10,000, and the flags of the 50 states are flown.

Why all the fuss and fanfare? It's because Waubeka is the birthplace of Flag Day, and town folks are mighty proud of their old school being placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

It all began 109 years ago when a 19-year-old school teacher, Bernard J. Cigrand, and his pupils held the first recognized observance of the flag's birthday in the one-room Stony Hill School. On June 14, 1885, Cigrand and his students gathered around a 10-

Please turn page

Ray Mahon is associate editor of THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE.

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inch, 39-star flag standing in a bottle on the teacher's desk. Cigrand selected that day for the observance because Congress had officially adopted the Stars and Stripes as the Flag of the United States on June 14, 1777.

Cigrand left teaching a year later and went on to study dentistry, eventually establishing practices in Chicago, Batavia and Aurora, Ill. But his love for the flag did not diminish, and he spent 31 years crusading for a proper tribute to the flag. Cigrand was rewarded on June 14, 1916, when President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed the national observance of Flag Day.

On Flag Day 1946, the village of Waubeka fittingly honored its favorite son with a memorial flag pole and plaque outside the schoolhouse where Cigrand had earned \$40 a month teaching English and German.

In March 1953, the National Flag Day Foundation was established in Waubeka to carry on the traditions of the first Flag Day observance. According to the foundation president, John Janik, the nonprofit organization's mission is to conduct an annual celebration and parade in Waubeka and to teach Americanism and respect for the flag throughout the country. To



FLAGWAVING—The color guard of Legion Post 288, Cedarburg, Wis., raises the flag at Stony Hill School.

accomplish this, Janik says the foundation works closely with veterans' organizations, school and 4-H groups, Boy Scouts and other patriot organizations.

For example, this year's celebration, co-sponsored by the Waubeka VFW Flag Day Post 7037, includes a 109-unit parade featuring military, veterans and civic groups, drill teams, bands and youth organizations from across the state.

A Presidential Proclamation will be read during the 48th Anniversary program at Cigrand Memorial Court, beginning at noon. The Army 84th Division band will provide music.

Attending last year's parade was Cigrand's great grand niece, Charlotte M. Ayers of Beaufort, S.C. It was the first time the former Marine sergeant was able to attend the celebration. "The parade was so big for the size of the town. As the parade moved through the town on its route, one part of it had to stop at an intersection to allow the rest of the parade to pass," Ayers said. "It was the most patriotism I have ever seen in one place."

Cigrand's love of flag and patriotism is, indeed, his legacy to his hometown. "People here wear their patriotism on their sleeves," says Janik. "If anyone dared to desecrate the flag around here, he probably wouldn't live to see another day."

It's hard to imagine anyone in Waubeka who doesn't feel the same

way as Janik. Legionnaire Roger Baumann, a Korean War veteran, has lived there all his life. Since the town has no Legion Post, he is a member of Post 410, Fredonia, two miles down the road. "The town definitely wouldn't put up with any form of flag desecration here," he says.

And what would Dr. Cigrand think about people who burn flags and walk all over them? "If he were here today, I think he would be hurt by those who show disregard for the flag," says Charlotte Ayers.

"I think he would be working hard with state legislatures to put laws protecting the flag on their books. And I expect he would be lecturing in towns throughout the country, and visiting classrooms as he did in 1885, to instill pride and patriotism in young and old."

As for Ayers, "As a former Marine, I feel only contempt for those who desecrate the flag," she says. "What sort of people are they — uncaring publicity

seekers, or people who take everything for granted living in this beautiful country?"

"Maybe deportation to another country would bring them to their senses." □

THE FATHER OF FLAG DAY

BERNARD J. Cigrand was born in the village of Waubeka, Wis., on Oct. 1, 1866. His early interest in education was inspired by his father, who formed study groups and went on to become the justice of the peace, postmaster and a school commissioner.

Cigrand's first public proposal for a Flag Day was printed June 1886 in the *Chicago Argus*. For years, he campaigned for national recognition of the flag in newspapers, magazines, books and on the lecture circuit.

He became a lecturer for the *Chicago Daily News* and was a contributing editor to the *Encyclopedia Americana*, for which he wrote "The Origination and Meaning of Flag Day." His pam-

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THE LEGION & THE FLAG

THE AMERICAN Legion campaign for a constitutional amendment to protect the U.S. Flag from physical desecration is just the latest in a long line of Legion initiatives on behalf of the nation's most cherished symbol.

For the past four years, Legionnaires in all 50 states have been pressing their state legislatures to pass memorializing resolutions supporting a constitutional amendment to protect the flag from physical desecration. At press time, 43 states have done so (for details about the flag campaign, see Page 40).

But the Legion's role as unofficial guardian of the flag goes back more than 70 years. In 1923, the Legion played a signifi-

Please turn to page 50

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POLLUTING

The Heavens

Dangerous debris from satellites, rockets and military tests threatens future space missions.

BY LANCE FRAZER

IMAGINE driving home on a dark, stormy night. The wind is howling and raindrops are splattering against your car. Then the temperature drops, and the hailstones slam against the windshield.

Now imagine you're at the controls of a space shuttle or aboard space station *Freedom* more than 300 miles above the Earth's surface. It isn't hail that concerns you now, but objects ranging in size from spent rocket boosters to baseballs to microscopic flecks of paint. And when they hit your windshield, it isn't with the annoying din of wind-driven hail, but with the life-threatening impact of an object traveling 20,000 mph.

As humans expand farther and farther into space, the orbiting junk that is the legacy of the world's space program poses an increasing threat to the machines and humans who orbit the Earth.

Since the late 1950s, more than 20,000 objects have been placed in orbit, and by the best estimates of the U.S. Space Command — the agency responsible for tracking and cata-

logging space debris — there are still more than 7,000 objects greater than four inches in diameter orbiting Earth.

The objects include spent rocket boosters, defunct satellites, even the nuclear reactors that powered now-dead satellites. But these are usually manageable hazards because they can be tracked by ground-based radar.

What concerns scientists far more is the vast amount of debris that is too small to be tracked. Specks of aluminum and paint and tiny metal shards from exploding rockets cloud the space around Earth like swarms of hypersonic bees. Each one is capable of destroying a \$100 million satellite or killing a space-walking astronaut.

In recent years, shuttles *Discovery* and *Atlantis* have dodged large pieces of Soviet rocketry, but these larger pieces of debris make up less than 5 percent of the objects orbiting around Earth. The vast majority of the objects are no bigger than a grain of sand, and their supersonic speeds can be deadly. For example, a piece of aluminum the size of an aspirin tablet traveling at 22,000 mph would inflict the same destructive force as a 400-pound safe traveling 60 mph.

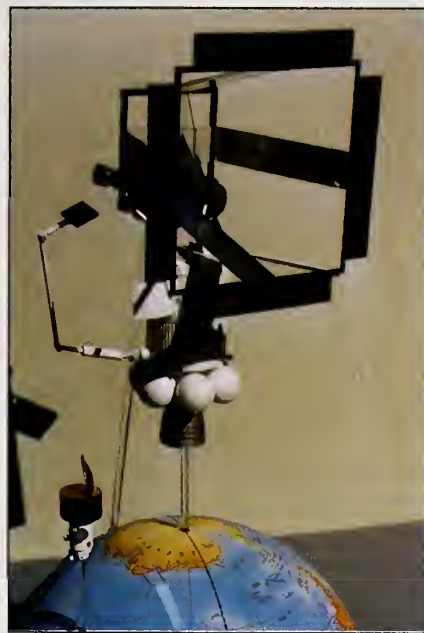
There may be as much as 3,000 tons of debris cluttering the space around Earth, say James Ryan, research associate professor with the Institute for the Study of Earth,

Lance Frazer, a freelance writer based in Santa Rosa, Calif., specializes in science and technology, and environmental issues.





JOHN MAGGARD



COURTESY OF U OF ARIZONA

SPACE GARBAGE— One proposal to eliminate litter in orbit would use satellites, such as the one above, to zap debris with a focused beam of sunlight.

Oceans and Space at the University of New Hampshire in Durham.

"We're not yet at the critical stage," says Ryan, "but I don't think it's far off. The best evidence we have indicates the situation is serious now, and will become catastrophic if conditions remain unchanged.

"The problem is going to worsen as the density of objects in any given orbit increases to the stage where collisions start creating their own supply of debris," Ryan says.

Littering space is millions of particles of metal and other debris left from a number of accidental and deliberate rocket explosions. Until recently, it was also common practice for the Soviet Union and the United States to destroy satellites during antisatellite and explosives testing.

To see how much debris such an incident might release in space, a Navy OSCAR 22 satellite was deliberately destroyed by an aluminum particle weighing a third of a pound fired from a hypervelocity gun.

The projectile struck OSCAR with the equivalent force of a two-inch piece of space debris and triggered the release of an estimated 30 million particles. Each of these particles would have added to the debris cloud, if the

collision had occurred in orbit.

The problem with anything left in Earth orbit is that once it's up there, it tends to stay there for a long time. Objects orbiting up to about 250 miles will be pulled back by atmospheric drag within a relatively short period of time. But objects orbiting from 1,250 to 1,875 miles up — where most reconnaissance and communications satellites orbit — have an orbital lifetime measured in thousands of years.

And the longer you stay in orbit and the larger the craft you're orbiting in, the greater the likelihood that something will run into you.

For example, the originally conceived space station *Freedom* was about 100 meters in size. Scientists estimated that during *Freedom's* first 10 years of life, it would have had a 1 in 10 chance of being hit by an object larger than 10 centimeters — roughly the size of a softball.

Most satellites being launched today have built-in shielding to protect delicate systems, but these shields would be admittedly ineffective against something the size of a bolt traveling at nearly 20,000 miles an hour.

POLLUTING THE HEAVENS

ter, "Once you get to the stage where debris is being produced faster than it's being removed by natural forces, you reach a critical density where even continual upgrading of your spacecraft's shielding can't protect it."

However, Robert Culp, chairman of the Aerospace Engineering Sciences Department at the University of Colorado in Boulder, says there have been no confirmed cases of satellites being lost through collision with orbital debris. But he adds that there have been several unexplained losses which could be attributed to collision damage. He cites the Soviet's navigation satellite *Cosmos 1275*, which broke up in 1981, as one that could have been hit by debris.

Even without confirmed kills, space debris has repeatedly set back the world's space programs.

In 1984, *Solar Max* was disabled after thousands of collisions with what may have been rocket fuel or satellite fragments. And both the U.S. *Long Duration Exposure Facility*, a large orbital scientific spacecraft, and the

Soviet *MIR* reported tens of thousands of pits caused by collision with microscopic debris.

All of this makes the task of engineers designing the space station particularly enormous. The space station will not only be in orbit for a long time and present a very large target, but it will also house humans.

NASA spacecraft are currently protected by what's called a "Whipple shield," developed by Smithsonian astronomer Fred Whipple. It has two separated layers; the outer causes the incoming particle to fragment into many smaller pieces; the inner absorbs the diffuse force of the fragments.

But a Whipple shield is extraordinarily heavy — one module of the space station would weigh more than 1½ tons. Lifting those extra pounds into orbit becomes prohibitively expensive for a project already dogged by questions about excessive costs. Thus, NASA scientists are working on different variations on the Whipple shield using materials such as Kevlar, ceramic cloth and graphite fiber.

NASA also is working on new radar technology that could detect significantly smaller particles, and perhaps provide early warning of an impending collision. But nothing now under review would protect the station from debris longer than an inch.

Losing an expensive satellite, however, is insignificant compared with the life of an astronaut. In 1983, *Challenger's* windshield was damaged by a speck of paint so badly that it was judged unusable.

"Imagine," says researcher Ryan, "what would have happened if that same speck of paint had struck an astronaut on a spacewalk. These people roll the dice every time they step out of the shuttle, and there are a lot of objects up there traveling as fast or faster that could do a lot more damage than a bit of paint."

"It is necessary that we recognize this hazard, take steps to deal with it now, and try to prevent it from getting worse," says Culp of the University of Colorado.

According to experts, there are two ways of dealing with space debris. One is to try to remove what's already there. The second is to avoid dumping any more, so space can eventually cleanse itself, just as a polluted body of water will if you don't keep dumping into it.

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Common Orbits & Their Occupants

Some 7,000 objects more than 4 inches wide orbit the Earth. Some are as close as 170 kilometers (about 106 miles).

The most debris-dense area
800 to 1000 km

- 20,000 km** Newer navigational satellites (such as the Global Positioning System) 20,000 km
- 1000 km** Older navigational satellites 1000 km
- 800 km** Remote sensing satellites (Landsat) 800-850 km
- 400 km** Soviet *MIR* and the proposed Space Station Alpha 400 km
- 200 km** Space Shuttle 200-400 km
- 200 km** Observational (spy) satellites 170-400 km

Source: Lance Frazer



STOCKMARKET

Plugging Kids Into Computers

By Gurney Williams III

RUTH PERSHING, a seventh-grade teacher and distant relative of Gen. John Joseph Pershing, shares her ancestor's skill at commanding the front line.

Her classroom at the Duke School for Children Middle School in Durham, N.C., is armed with cutting-edge technology. Kids learn reading, writing and arithmetic amid the hum of six Macintosh computers, two printers, a camcorder, TV monitor, a device that projects digitized images on a screen, and a hookup linking her 12-year-olds to a worldwide computer network.

The Information
Generation is on line.
Toddlers and teens use
PCs to think and learn
faster than ever before.

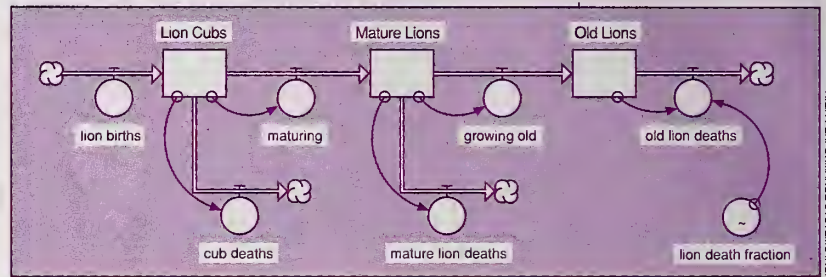
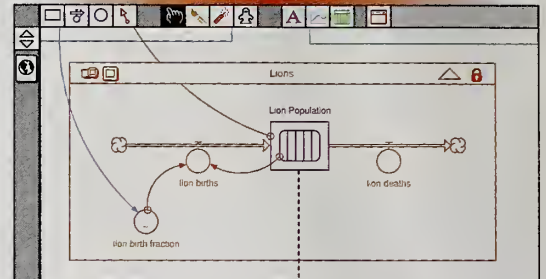
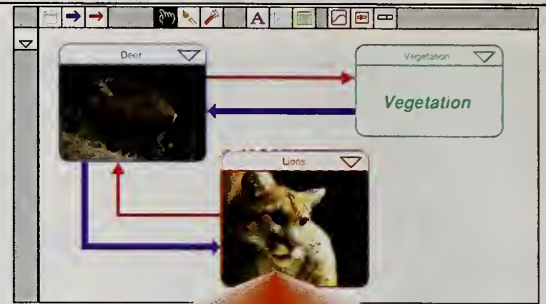
Seventy-seven years after Gen. "Black Jack" Pershing masterminded the allied victory at the Second Battle of the Marne, Ruth Pershing is one of the leaders in marshaling a technological campaign to train the new Information Generation. That's the group of some 50 million youngsters born during the 1980s and early '90s when powerful computers finally became simple enough for toddlers to use — even when parents were too scared to try.

Some educators say all this glitzy equipment will never replace classroom staples like blocks and paint. They worry that schools may be spending money on computers at the expense of basic educational tools.

Kids And Computers



TERMINAL TEXT
—With computers, students can learn subjects that don't have textbook answers. Emily Warburg (left) and 7th-grade teacher Ruth Pershing examine animal population trends.



But Pershing and others say today's schoolchildren are a perfect match for computers and their accessories. "They're much more visual," she says. "They work at a faster pace. And they're used to being surrounded by information." Pershing says her job is to "teach them to navigate through it."

No one knows for sure how many classrooms are equipped like Pershing's, but most educators agree that the number is growing rapidly.

The percentage of schools with one or more computers rose from less than 20 percent in 1981 to 95 percent in 1987, according to a report from Interactive Educational Systems Design, a New York consulting firm. By 1993, America's 17,000 school districts had installed some 4.4 million computers — an average of more than 250 per district, the Software Publishers Association in Washington, D.C., claims.

That doesn't even count the private computer schools like Byte Sized Computing in Rye, N.Y., run by ex-IBM executive Dominick A. Curatola. There, 40 children a week — some as young as 2 — come to peck at computers the way kids of an earlier generation learned to play the piano. Training toddlers on computers prepares them for a 21st century economy when information technology (IT) — not manufacturing — will offer the

A frequent contributor to this magazine, Gurney Williams III wrote "What Homosexuals Want From America" in the September 1993 issue.

When Computer Kids Grow Up

TODAY'S personal computers can fix a 12-year-old's spelling mistakes, suggest writing ideas and check his grammar and math calculations. For middle-schoolers, these smart machines can also produce multimedia reports — not just words on paper, but sounds, charts and video clips.

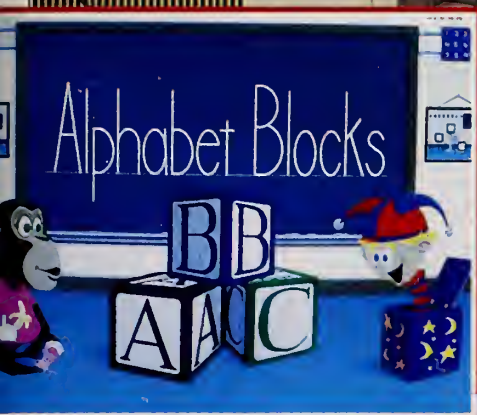
But what computers can't do is answer a question vitally important to all our futures: What will life and work be like for these computer-literate kids when they grow up?

Today's seventh graders will turn 25 in the year 2007. Between now and then, computers may actually increase their workload, according to Ellen R. Bialo, president of Interactive Educational

Systems Design. Bialo's New York consulting firm recently studied the effect of software on children's achievement.

Technology, she says, "makes it easier to do so much more that kids will be expected to do more." They may not spend as many hours in the library, since computers already can deliver published material to their classrooms or home printers without the need to pull a book off a shelf. But they'll probably wind up doing more work, Bialo says.

As a result, in 2007, they'll be better educated and equipped to produce more on the job. What'll they do for fun? Play computer games, of course. And maybe visit museums to see the antique computers of 1994. — G.W. □



BUILDING BLOCKS— Dominick Curatola teaches his 2-year-old daughter, Marielle, how to use a mouse so she'll be able to play with digital ABCs and eventually navigate through a Tinkertoy cyberworld.



most jobs, Curatola says

"You can see the trend in the Northeast. Locally we used to make elevators and cars. Now manufacturing is basically over, and jobs are created in the information-intensive service industries — insurance, the law, finance."

His 2-year-old daughter, Marielle, is already learning to play simple letter games with a program called Alphabet Blocks. She uses a "mouse," a computer pointing device that looks like a piece of soap and is connected by a cord to the machine. When Marielle moves the mouse, it moves an arrow on the computer screen. When she clicks a button on the mouse, a character or an object on the screen obeys a command.

Marielle doesn't even know how to use a keyboard, and she certainly doesn't know IT is coming. But she happily plays with, and is taught by, a friendly, animated monkey on the computer screen. Coach Bananas guides her through letters to recognize the sounds of vowels and consonants. When Marielle gets bored and stops

moving the mouse, Coach Bananas closes his eyes and goes to sleep. Teaching old-fashioned basics has changed in higher-level classrooms, too, as students begin to master programs adapted from corporate America. Pershing, for example, easily combines practice in some basic math skills and science by using a computer spreadsheet.

She called the project the "the geology analogy." The class had to research facts and events in geologic time, back to Earth's earliest days 4.65 billion years ago. Then they thought up ways to compare Earth's long story with familiar modern events.

Emily Warburg, 12, telescoped the planet's entire history into a single

nine-inning Cubs-Phillies baseball game that was actually played in September 1993. On her computer-generated time line, the bacteria appear early in the third inning. Dinosaurs don't show up until the middle of the ninth. And humans make their entrance only when the last Cubs batter is going down on strikes.

"The spreadsheet really helped me with all my calculations," says Emily, who has been using computers for the past four years and hopes to get a job someday working with advanced software.

"There aren't any textbooks for what we're doing," Pershing says. "As a teacher, you have to go out and learn

Please turn to page 60

HOW AMERICA Devalues Religion

Our courts, politicians and press treat Americans' religious faith as hostile, ignorant and trivial. Instead, America must recognize religion's true benefits to society.

OS RELIGION part of the fabric of American life? Or is it invoked when convenient — and shunted aside when it does not serve a purpose?

Foreigners visiting this country could easily assume religion is an integral part of American society. After all, many public meetings feature prayer, and politicians habitually invoke God's name in their speeches.

But, according to Episcopalian Stephen Carter, a constitutional scholar and author, "This proves not how important religion is in America, but the opposite — how unimportant it is." Carter says heart-felt and sincere expressions of religious belief in public life are routinely discounted — sometimes ridiculed. "Religion is viewed as a prejudice," he says. Carter, the William Nelson Cromwell professor at Yale Law School, is a former clerk to U.S. Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall, and the author of *The Culture of Disbelief* and *Reflections of an Affirmative Action Baby*.

In this interview, he tells why religion is often pushed aside by government and the Supreme Court, despite its seemingly strong constitutional safeguards.

AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE: Many politicians talk a great deal about religion, frequently invoking God's name in support of their causes. How sincere are they about religion?

STEPHEN CARTER: There's a phenomenon I refer to as "God Talk." You hear it when politicians close every speech by referring to God and open every meeting by invoking his name. There are constant affirmations of faith, whether it's in regard to winning the Cold War or the War on Poverty. But it is difficult to imagine that God could possibly be on the side of every cause pressed by every politician.

To me these continuing references to God prove not how

important religion is, but the opposite — how unimportant it really is and, in the process, this suggests religious people are easily manipulated as long as you throw the right rhetoric at them.

Q. Didn't *The Washington Post* recently say precisely that about politically conservative evangelical Christians in an article describing them as "largely poor, uneducated, and easy to command?"

A. That was terrible, and the *Post* apologized the next day. But the apology left much to be desired. It essentially conceded that there is no data to support the contention, but it did not say the claim was false. To me, that's a very thin apology.

Q. Is this typical of media bias against religion?

A. There is an enormous fear of religion — particularly of evangelical Christianity — among the media. And there also is tremendous ignorance about religion, its history, its role in our lives and in the life of the nation. The *Post* comment typifies both. Obviously, it is mocking and that typifies the fear. But it also is ignorant. It's a comment made with no factual basis, and it reflects the prevailing stereotype of religious people as sheep.

Q. But hasn't that same media made some religious people into celebrities? Mother Teresa, for instance?

A. That's true. But the media wants to show Mother Teresa working with the destitute. When she campaigns against abortion, the media ignores it. Recently, she spoke at the National Prayer Breakfast at great length about abortion which she sees as a great evil. But that is a part of her the media doesn't wish to report on.

That's not an unusual case. While the voice of religion may be heard in public affairs, it is not much listened to. Too often, people take the view that if religion agrees with their



politics, it must be the word of God. However, if the religious voice disagrees with the listener's opinions, the response usually is, "Religion doesn't belong in the debate anyway. So I don't have to listen."

In this way, religion is not a means of finding truth, it's just another weapon in a debate. Thus, religion typically is viewed as a prejudice that needs to be filtered out of sober discussions. What that says to religious people is they don't belong in public debate unless they transform themselves into different persons, leaving behind something deeply important to them.

Q. Does the Constitution's "church-state separation" mean religious leaders should stay out of politics?

A. Not at all. Properly understood, the separation isn't a means of protecting government from churches, but a means of protecting churches from the government. It's not a two-way street.

Furthermore, there is much depressing evidence that the religious voice is required to stay out of public debate only when it supports conservative causes.

Some years ago, when the Roman Catholic bishops in the United States endorsed a nuclear freeze, only a few objected. On the other hand, when the bishop of San Diego threatened to excommunicate politicians who support abortion, many voices were loudly raised in opposition. The bishop was told in effect to shut up because he was making a religious argument.

I am not claiming all religiously based positions are right.

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HIGHLIGHTS

Stephen Carter On...

Fear: "Those who pray regularly — those who believe in God — are encouraged to keep it a secret."

The Supreme Court: "The Court treats religion as something unimportant."

The media: "There's enormous fear of religion among the media."

Politicians: "It is difficult to imagine that God could possibly be on the side of every cause pressed by every politician."

The religious voice: "It's absolutely vital that the religious voice be involved in all our moral and political controversies."

America's moral crisis: "We desperately need sober moral conversation and cannot afford to exclude voices because they happen to be religious ones."

The Longest Day

BUOYED BY

VICTORIES IN

THE PACIFIC,

THE ALLIES LOOK

TO EUROPE.

By Sid Moody

ON JUNE 4, 1944, James M. Stagg saw something that the Germans did not. It was a fair weather cell north-west of Spain, drifting eastward. He predicted it would be over Normandy in France by June 6.

Group Capt. Stagg of the Royal Air Force was a meteorologist. "There goes six-feet-two of Stagg and six-feet-one of gloom," they used to say around headquarters.

Stagg dumped his weather report into the lap of Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, commander of Overlord, the Allied invasion of France. Stagg's prediction presented "Ike" with one of the most wrenching decisions he ever faced: To attack or not to attack?

The Germans had no doubt that the Allies were coming across the Channel from England. The question was when and where. Their forecasters had missed the clearing front. They predicted continuing rain and wind. No enemy would be out in weather like that. So

Sid Moody, a freelance writer from New York City, wrote "Rolling to Rome" in the February issue of this magazine.

war games for the German commanders would go on as scheduled June 6 at Rennes in Brittany. Field Marshall Erwin Rommel, commander in Normandy, had even gone home to Germany for his wife's birthday.

Rommel's hunch had been that Normandy would be the target. Adolph Hitler's "intuition" agreed. Nonetheless, the bulk of German strength, the Fifteen Army, remained in the Pas-de-Calais area 22 miles directly across the nearest English coast. Field Marshall Gerd von Rundstedt, the overall German commander in the West, was convinced the blow would fall there.

But the Allies had chosen Normandy. It had shelving sand beaches and, at Cherbourg, a first-class port. The Pas-de-Calais ports were smaller and flanked by easily defended bluffs. But the English and Americans devised some of the cleverest ruses in military

history to keep the Germans guessing.

A whole phantom army was created in Scotland, complete with scores in newspapers of service soccer games and wedding announcements of fictitious soldiers. Messages to the underground in Norway asked about snow conditions in Norway to support the ruse that the Allies would land there.

In Kent, southeast of London, another phantom army was created under the command of Gen. George S. Patton, still in the doghouse for slapping two GIs in Sicily. Radio messages flew back and forth from a phony headquarters. Dummy invasion barges crowded the Thames, flying real laundry and emitting smoke from fake exhausts. Tanks left a confusion of tracks over the Kentish Downs. This further convinced von Rundstedt the attack was coming his way.

Meanwhile, back in his command trailer outside Portsmouth, Ike pondered his terrible decision. He wanted a full moon for the preliminary parachute drop by one British and two American divisions. He wanted a dawn tide just beginning to rise to facilitate the landing craft. If the huge armada did not invade by June 6, the tide wouldn't be favorable until late June, and there would be no moon.

The joke was that the only thing that kept England from sinking under the



OMAHA—GIs, above left, wade into a deadly crossfire from well-entrenched Germans.

HIGH PRICE — Above right, some of the 6,000 American casualties of D-Day.

VICTORY—Left, GIs display a Nazi flag after liberating a French village.

set out from England for Normandy. Percy Wallace, a lighthouse keeper on St. Gibans Head, stared in awe as the flotilla passed. He went home and asked his wife to kneel with him. "A

lot of men are going to die tonight," he said. "We should pray for them."

The U.S. 82nd and 101st Airborne divisions were to land behind Omaha and Utah beaches on Normandy's Cotentin Peninsula. The British 6th Airborne was to drop inland to the east near Caen, the immediate target of British and Canadian troops landing on Sword, Juno and Gold beaches.

Von Rundstedt's plan was a mobile defense in depth. Rommel insisted Allied air supremacy would not allow German armor to maneuver. If the landings were not stopped on the beaches, they would not be stopped at all, he argued in vain.

Allied ruses kept up to the end. Dummy paratroopers were dropped all over the area. They were equipped to shout out recorded orders on landing, then the strings of firecrackers wrapped around them exploded like automatic weapons. Meanwhile, at sea off the Pas-de-Calais, ships laid smoke screens

EISENHOWER

Wanted a full moon and a dawn tide.



BRADLEY

Seriously considered an evacuation.



ROMMEL

Had gone home for his wife's birthday.



weight of the buildup was the tethered barrage balloons. Every imaginable item had been stockpiled.

Among the inventory were English-French phrase books, toilet paper, shells, tanks, 100,000 packs of gum, 279,000 tents and 8,000 planes. It took 54,000 men just to keep track of it all. Orchards, manor houses and schools were crammed with men and material. Each armored division needed 40 shiploads to equip it. Chow lines were a quarter mile long.

Despite the foul weather that existed at the 4 a.m. briefing on June 5, Stagg, the British Air Force meteorologist, held to his prediction of favorable weather for a June 6 invasion. Eisenhower consulted his advisers around the small conference table, knowing full well the decision — and the blame — would be strictly his.

"OK," he said finally, "We'll go."

The world had never seen anything like the armada of 5,700 ships that

'Two kinds of people are staying on this beach—the dead and those who are going to die. Now let's get the hell out of here!'

and broadcast recorded sounds of engines and anchor chains being lowered over loudspeakers.

The paratroopers and glider troops had clear flying until reaching the Normandy coast, then clouds broke up the orderly formations. The 13,000 Americans were strewn over 100 square miles, but small groups began to gather, using metal clickers from Cracker Jack boxes as means of identification.

Lt. Richard Winters of the 101st led a handful of men on a battery of four German guns zeroed in on Utah, killing 15 enemy troops and spiking the guns. When Canadian Maj. Lawrence Legere was challenged by some Germans, he mumbled in French about coming home from his girlfriend's while he fumbled for a grenade. After tossing it, he found three dead Germans. Lt. Mike Dowling of the British paratroopers reported to his colonel that a vital battery had been destroyed, then fell dead.

At dawn, the massive fleet took positions off the beaches as the landing craft skittered in like water bugs. German Maj. Werner Pluskat, whose cannon overlooked Omaha, frantically phoned his headquarters, which wanted to know where the ships were heading. "Right for me!" he shouted.

Their guns blasting, destroyers steamed in so close to shore that their hulls scraped bottom. Meanwhile, the U.S. Army's 1st and 29th divisions headed for Omaha. It was a slaughter. A Co. of the 116th Rgt. landed with 197 men and suffered 96 percent casualties. Of 16 bulldozers meant to carve paths through the bluffs overlooking the beach, only three reached shore. A whole company of experimental floating tanks sank like stones, along with their crews. Gen. Omar Bradley, commander of the U.S. forces, seriously considered an evacuation.

But in the chaos, other voices were heard urging men forward. "Two kinds of people are staying on this beach," hollered Col. George Taylor, "the dead and those who are going to die. Now let's get the hell out of here!"

"They're murdering us here," said Col. Charles Canham. "Let's move inland and get murdered." Gradually the Americans pushed forward, leaving their fallen comrades rolling to and fro in the surf.

At Pointe du Hoc, 250 U.S. Rangers with ladders borrowed from the London Fire Department were ordered to scale a cliff and attack an enemy battery. Reaching the top, they found

the guns hadn't been emplaced yet.

The British and Canadians had easier going. It looked like Gen. Sir Bernard Montgomery — "God All-Monty" to his detractors — would fulfill his boast to take Caen within 24 hours. It took a month, causing Ike near apoplexy about the Briton who was in command of the landing forces.

One British group was met by four Germans with their bags packed, ready to be shipped to England as POWs. A sailor looking for a souvenir helmet followed a Canadian herding six German prisoners behind a sand dune. He found them with their throats slashed.

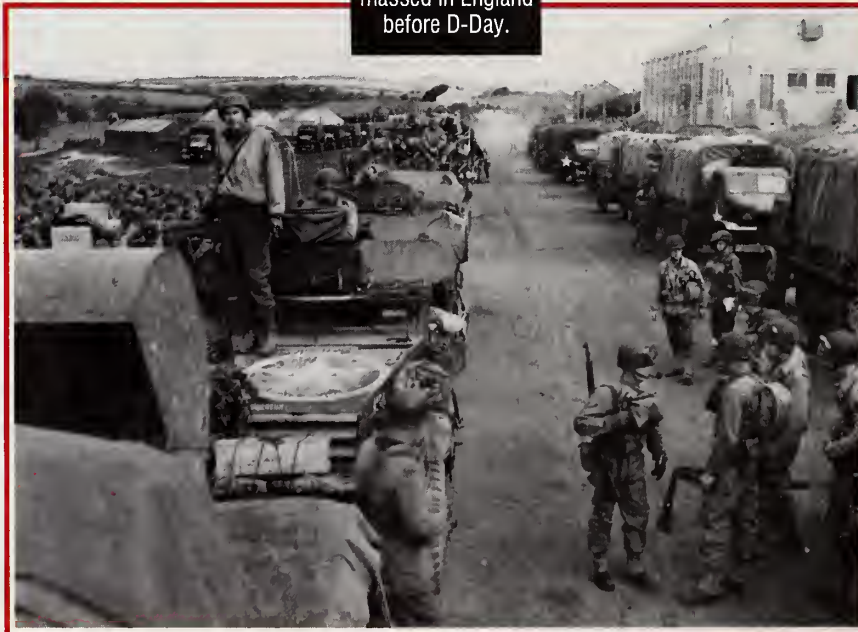
Although the Allies flew thousands of missions over the beaches to only hundreds by the German Luftwaffe, targets were hard to find in the dust and smoke of battle. A carpet attack by massed bombers fell ineffectively inland. But by evening of D-Day, all five beachheads had been enlarged inland. The Allies had 55,000 men ashore. U.S. casualties were put at 6,603, including 1,465 killed. Between 3,500 and 4,000 British and Canadian troops were killed or wounded. The numbers have never been released.

Hitler was notified of the landing in mid-morning because his staff feared to wake their night-owl Führer. He joked with his generals, lunched with the new Hungarian prime minister and ordered his top commander, Field Marshall von Rundstedt, to stay where he was so he would be ready to counter the "real" attack in the Pas-de-Calais. Infuriated, von Rundstedt stalked out of his headquarters near Paris to tend his garden.

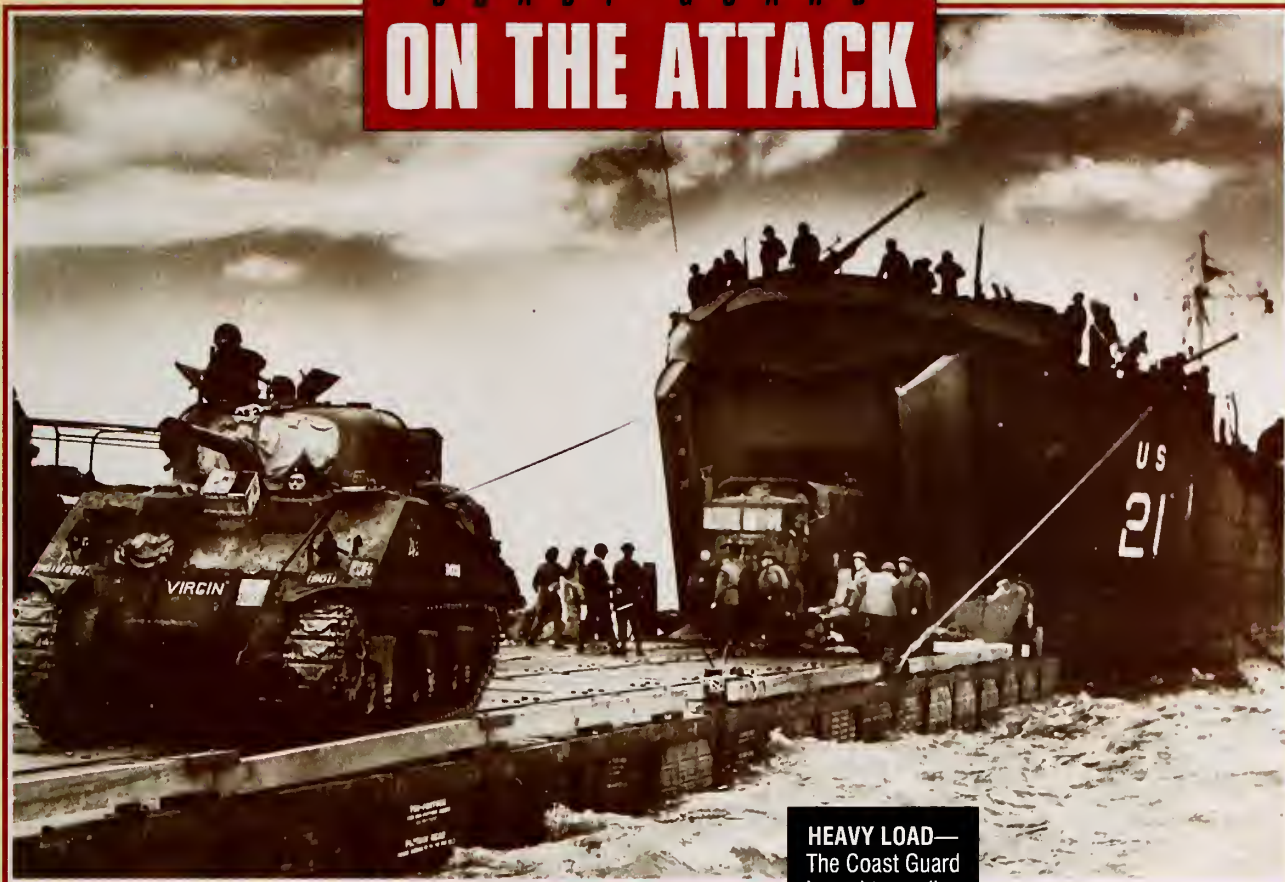
When he heard the news, Rommel clapped his forehead in agony. "How stupid of me!" he kept repeating. Seven weeks before he had said the invasion had to be stopped within 24 hours of "the longest day" for both the Allies and the Germans.

It had, indeed, been a long day for Brig. Gen. Norman Cota, the 29th Div.'s second in command. Stalking the beach like a football coach and waving his .45 automatic, he had rallied his men up the bluffs of Omaha and into France. As the day ended, he flagged down a passing truck. "Run me up the hill, son," he said to the driver. □

BATTLE PLAN—
The largest armada ever assembled massed in England before D-Day.



COAST GUARD ON THE ATTACK



HEAVY LOAD—
The Coast Guard brought supplies and reinforcements to D-Day beaches.

IT WAS the largest armada the world had ever seen — 5,700 ships — and among them were ships of the U.S. Coast Guard. They were transporting Allied troops to the enemy's doorstep, just as they had during every other Allied invasion of World War II.

During Operation Overlord, the Coast Guard operated 60 of its own cutters plus 40 Navy vessels, including five large attack transports, 11 LSTs (Landing Ship, Tank), and 24 LCI(L)s (Landing Craft Infantry, Large), oceangoing vessels capable of carrying 200 men.

Among the Coast Guard's LCI landing craft were those operated in support of the assault group commanded by Coast Guard Capt. E.H. Fritzsche and his deputy, Capt. Miles Imlay, who landed troops of the 1st Infantry Division on the bloody Omaha beachhead.

Although the Allied sailors and troops had trained hard for Overlord, none were prepared for the rough voyage across the stormy English Channel.

Many of the soldiers were so seasick by the time they landed that they

were actually grateful to face the Germans rather than remain at sea. By comparison, the landings at Utah Beach went relatively well. The Coast Guard-manned transports *USS Bayfield* and the *Joseph T. Dickman* successfully landed their troops and equipment by midday. As flagship for the Utah invasion, the *Bayfield* stayed near the Normandy coast for 19 days, serving as a hospital ship and surviving nightly German air attacks.

Meanwhile, Coast Guard vessels at Omaha Beach did not fare as well. The first wave was scheduled to land at 0630 and the landing craft approached the beaches right on time.

Many of the amphibious Sherman tanks, which were to make their way to the beaches under their own power, foundered well off shore and the landing craft had to move in virtually alone.

Allied battleships fired on the coastal positions, but the Germans still managed to put up a hail of fire against the incoming craft.

One Coast Guard coxswain noted, "We knew we were going to catch hell when we saw the machine-gun

fire spraying the water before us."

The first waves took crippling casualties. The demolition teams who were to blow channels through the German beach obstacles were nearly wiped out before they could finish the job. And there was not enough time to mark the channels they did blow clear before the incoming tide covered the beach.

At 0730, the Coast Guard LCIs moved in. Several ran over the submerged obstacles and four were quickly hit by mines and German artillery. One of them, LCI(L)-85, took about 25 hits, killing many of the 200 men aboard and heavily damaging the craft.

The 85 eventually sank, but not before the crew managed to off-load the remaining troops and limp back to transfer the wounded to the Coast Guard-manned attack transport *USS Samuel Chase*.

Two other LCIs were hit on the beach and put out of action. As they burned all day, their billowing smoke served as landmarks for other waves of Allied landing craft.

Please turn to page 66



DAVID BECK

Possessed!

Why has America's self-help craze convinced ordinary people they are haunted by deep-seated demons? Is it to sell all those expensive books, tapes and classes?

By Steve Salerno

IT'S AN addiction suffered by millions of Americans, yet it receives none of the dire publicity associated with alcoholism, child abuse and other cause célèbres.

It is gradually eroding time-honored principles in criminal justice and other areas of personal accountability, yet it is shamelessly endorsed on national TV by some of America's most popular celebrities. It may, in fact, be the only addiction that has its own eight-figure promotional budget.

And chillingly, it's an addiction for which there is no recovery program. That's because the addiction is recovery itself.

Welcome to the self-help movement, the nation's newest personal obsession.

How powerful is it? Listen to Archie Brodsky, senior research associate at the Massachusetts Mental Health Center:

Freelancer Steve Salerno writes frequently on medical subjects for this magazine. His article, "Alternative Medicine: New Rx for The '90s," appeared in the April issue.

"For certain individuals, this whole self-help and recovery phenomenon is more potent and addicting than any narcotic," he says. "People's appetite for this stuff is unquenchable."

The mass appeal of contemporary self-help is beyond dispute. Americans annually buy hundreds of millions of self-help books, according to analyses of bestseller lists. This is not surprising, as typically half the 10 titles on the prestigious *New York Times* best-seller list are self-help related. *Codependent No More*, Melody Beattie's seminal 1987 tract on overcoming self-destructive behaviors, still sells at the rate of 40,000 copies per month. Indeed, *American Health* magazine wrote about a study that suggested that self-help addicts continue to buy books "long after their shelves are stocked."

And, of course, there are the groups and seminars. *American Demographics* magazine reported in its March 1992 issue that some 12 million Americans attend meetings of at least one of the nation's 500,000 various support groups.

Seminars by Marianne Williamson, high priestess of personal fulfillment and author of 1992's smash hit, *A Return to Love*, fill up as quickly as Bruce Springsteen concerts. So, too, do the \$150 workshops run by John Bradshaw. His book, *Homecoming: Reclaiming and Championing Your Inner Child*, contributed buzzwords such as *toxic shame* and *rage-aholic* to the nation's pop-psyche vocabulary.

Often, such seminars become sales pitches for a proliferation of tapes, books and other products. Zig Ziglar recently crossed over into the personal fulfillment market after years in formal sales training. Ziglar reaps as much

money from the sale of ancillary materials as he does from seminar admission fees — as high as \$50,000 in a single day.

What's more, 12-step programs that used to be applied exclusively to alcoholism and spousal abuse now are being adapted to a widening array of so-called dysfunctions — everything from love addiction to compulsive shopping to chronic lateness for work.

"Self-help is an industry in its own right," asserts psychologist Joyce Brothers. "It's largely the timing, with the recession tending to make people feel generally less secure, more pessimistic. Personally and professionally, everybody is looking for a way out."

Or for a way in. Increasing numbers of people from all walks of life are trying to carve out their own niche in the burgeoning self-help market.

For example, since 1975 membership in the National Speakers Organization, a fraternal group of roving lecturers, has jumped from a founding core of 50 to over 4,000. No small part of that 8,000 percent increase has been today's personal improvement gurus who seem bent on convincing as many people as possible that they desperately need help.

Homecoming author John Bradshaw contends that "96 percent of us come from dysfunction-

OFF THE RACK—
One study says that self-help addicts continue buying books "long after their shelves are stocked."



al families." Similarly, Melody Beattie's definition of codependency — in effect, anybody who has "let another person's behavior affect him or her" — would seem to exclude no one.

There's a tendency to dismiss even the most eyebrow-raising self-help slants as harmless silliness: groups for cross-dressers, nail-biters or long-haired lesbians come to mind. But a deeper analysis has raised a variety of

Please turn to page 63

A Hallmark of Legion History

THE WRITING OF

The GI Bill

The GI Bill changed America. It took a nationwide Legion effort to make it law and a last-minute search for the congressman who would cast the deciding vote.



PEN MAN—Harry W. Colmery compiled notes from Legion committee meetings and resolutions to draft the GI Bill.

AMERICA was fighting World War II for 19 months when Lawrence E. Mahoney, a 20-year-old soldier, came home to New York City on July 9, 1943, without his hands. He was not offered VA medical care or rehabilitation. Instead, the Army gave him “new hands” — poorly fitting wooden blocks.

Like Mahoney, thousands of wounded GIs came home to a nation neither committed nor prepared to help them recover from the physical and emotional ravages of war.

But across America in hundreds of towns and cities, Legionnaires who had been there before — in another war — knew the feelings of being jobless, homeless and helpless, with few places to turn for their lingering wounds of war. Thus, Legionnaires at Posts and Departments began a grass-

roots campaign that didn't end until all Americans knew that the nation was ignoring its veterans.

To do right by America's troops and their families, The American Legion stepped forward with a piece of legislation that helped America for generations to come: The Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, commonly known as the GI Bill.

Drafted entirely by The American Legion, the GI Bill expanded VA treatment and provided other hard-earned benefits for veterans. Through the years, it has educated more than 20 million Americans and has helped them buy more than 14 million homes under its home loan program. And thanks to the GI Bill and the visionary leadership of the Legion, generations of Americans became tax-paying, pro-

ductive citizens.

How did it happen?

It took a crash course in political basic training for Legion officials who were assigned to hammer out the historic document and turn it into law. Before it was all over, the Legion was to learn a series of valuable lessons

that would help it hold its own in scores of legislative battles it would fight for veterans in the future.

The National Convention held in Omaha in 1943 set the stage for the GI Bill battle. Post-World War I memories of unemployment, lack of rehabilitation or compensation and memories of the Great Depression were still fresh in the minds of Legionnaires. Convention delegates generated a host of resolutions aimed at preventing history from repeating itself. Many of the resolutions were translated into the language of bills and presented to Congress by lawmakers who supposedly supported the Legion's initiatives.

One piece of legislation in particu-



BETTMAN ARCHIVES



MAIL CALL—
PNC Warren Atherton (right) shows California Rep. Bertrand Gearhart some of the thousands of letters and petitions favoring the GI Bill.

BY THE BOOK—
Millions of veterans used the GI Bill to get an education and find better jobs.

cheer this Christmas for veterans who have been mustered out of the Army without a cent in their pocket, without a suit of clothes."

Mays returned to Washington in January, furious over the editorial. He told Camelon to "first call your undertaker" if the reporter ever turned public opinion against him like that again.

The threat backfired. Hearst editors ordered Camelon and other staff members to do all they could

lar — the bonus bill — served as an object lesson to Legion officials.

The Legion wrote a bill in late 1943 calling for a separation bonus for all returning GIs. Then, as now, the VA claims backlog was appalling, and a separation bonus would provide discharged servicemen with a grubstake. "Even criminals released from prison receive money and clothes to start them off," National Commander Warren Atherton told Congress.

Congressmen lauded the idea in speeches and press releases, but Atherton and the Legion learned that Congress could not always be trusted.

Sen. Frank Mays, chairman of the Senate Armed Forces Committee, was one who spoke eloquently of his support for the veterans' bonus. But when the Legion

bill came before his committee, he stalled its passage.

Despite a public outcry to pass legislation before Christmas 1943, Mays slipped out of Washington and went home. The Hearst newspapers published a scathing editorial by reporter David Camelon that said, "In May's absence went...all hope that there will be a little money, a little hope and

to garner support for the Legion's legislation. Although a mustering-out bonus was eventually passed, it was for considerably less than the Legion wanted. The experience taught the Legion a valuable lesson: The public comments of congressmen do not always indicate how they will vote.

During that time, the Legion had to come to grips with another nagging problem.

By late 1943, more than 200 pieces of legislation dealing with veterans and their benefits were submitted to Congress by lawmakers. National Commander Atherton knew that while the Legion approved of many of them, the sheer number of the bills and turf-protecting committees involved in the legislative process could stall any progress indefinitely. Worse, supporting one bill over another could cost the Legion valuable friends in Congress.

IT'S THE LAW—With Legion officials among the onlookers, Franklin Roosevelt signs the GI Bill, writing a historic page in American history.



THE GI BILL

First and foremost, Atherton was appalled at the treatment GIs received. Claims for even the most obviously disabled veteran were inexcusably backlogged, vital medical records were missing and some veterans were reduced to begging just to stay alive.

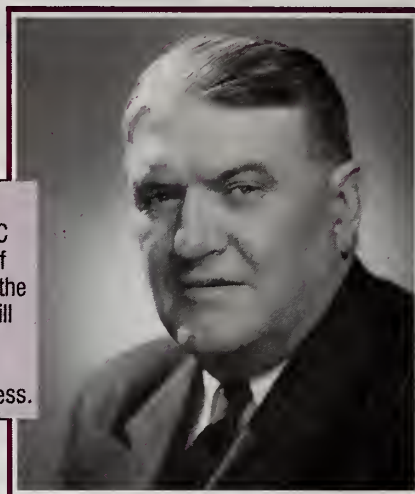
In November 1943, Atherton sent telegrams to 34 Legion Departments and asked them to describe the situation of returning troops in their states. The Departments reported that many veterans were without work and lost in

the tangle of state and federal bureaucracy. In all, Atherton received 1,537 case histories to back up the Departments' claims.

Armed with the case histories, Atherton appointed Legionnaire John Stelle—a former Illinois governor—to chair a committee to assess the long-range needs of veterans when the war ended. At a Dec. 15 meeting, the committee was briefed by the Legion's National Rehabilitation Division staff.

As a result of the briefing and

**DRIVING
FORCE—PNC**
John Stelle of
Illinois pushed the
Legion's GI Bill
through a
combative,
resistant Congress.



AN OPEN LETTER TO:

Senator Bennett C. Clark, Chairman,
Veterans' Sub-Committee to
Senate Finance Committee,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D. C.

Washington, D. C.
February 16, 1944.

Dear Senator Clark:

Everything that glitters is not necessarily gold!

Pressure is being brought to bear on the Congress to force immediate enactment of the so-called G-I Bill of Rights for the returning service men and women of World War II, identified as S. 1617, with amendments, now before your Committee.

Your Committee and the Congress may be interested to know that there is a serious question in the minds of some veteran groups as to whether this so-called G-I Bill of Rights, in its entirety, is a sound and equitable solution to the problems and needs of World War II veterans. Certain features of the bill, notably the Title on Educational Aid, are so broad in scope and potential cost, that its enactment would, in our opinion, probably not only prevent any consideration of several other more equitable proposals to solve such problems, but might also subsequently jeopardize the entire structure of veteran benefits and provoke another Economy Act.

Our nation's first responsibility should be to those who have suffered physical and/or mental handicap by reason of military or naval service. Any legislation which grants entitlement to four years of college training at government expense to any able-bodied veteran who had ninety days service should be carefully examined in the light of our tremendous war debt and the ability of the nation adequately to care for its war disabled.

The undersigned representatives of national veteran organizations, embracing some 550,000 members, most of whom have had, or are having, combat service—many with combat disabilities—urge your Committee carefully to consider all proposals as to post-war veteran adjustments now before the Congress, and not to be stampeded into hasty and possibly unwise legislation.

Let us not have another example of "act in haste and repent in leisure".

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

Omar B. Ketchum

MILITARY ORDER OF PURPLE HEART

Frank Haley
National Representative

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS

Willard H. Rice

REGULAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION

Wm. Lloyd
National Commander



Department replies to his telegrams, Atherton drafted a statement to the House Veterans Affairs Committee, citing case histories of some returning veterans:

- Veterans with medical discharges as early as August 1942 were still waiting for their first compensation checks.

- More than 100 discharged veterans with wounds were being housed in hospitals for the insane in northern California because there were no VA beds available.

- In Lawrence Mahoney's case, the Army discharged him before his records were complete. Without records, VA refused to grant him compensation or stainless steel claws to replace the temporary wooden blocks that served as his hands.

To correct those and other problems facing veterans, Stelle's committee determined that an omnibus bill encompassing all the needs of veterans was needed. But Legion Legislative Director Francis Sullivan warned that a bill of this nature was new to Congress and would create a turf war among the congressional committees who jealously guarded their power over specific matters.

But Stelle and his committee were convinced that if the bills created by the Legion did not go to Congress as a

Please turn to page 56

THE LEGION STOOD ALONE—Many veterans were shocked when the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Disabled American Veterans (DAV), the Military Order of the Purple Heart and the Regulation Veterans wrote a joint letter opposing the GI Bill. The Legion persevered, and in the end only the DAV remained opposed to the legislation.

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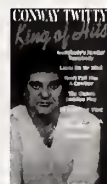
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VOLUNTARY SEPARATION SNAFUS

WHEN leaving the active and reserve forces, GIs apparently are not being told that they may have to pay back lump-sum medical disability payments or voluntary separation pay for early discharge. Many recently discharged veterans say that no one informed them of this serious hitch during their out-processing or during transitional assistance programs.

Under current law, all money collected by a GI for separation or medical disability must be recouped before VA disability compensation can be paid. The American Legion has received many calls and letters from veterans who accepted such payments only to discover later they must pay them back before they can receive VA disability compensation.

But an Army spokesman in the Pentagon said that all out-processing military personnel must sign a form saying they have read and understand this requirement.

What may be even harder to understand, however, is that these separating GIs are taxed on the money they receive when they leave the service. But, to receive VA medical disability compensation, they must pay all the money back, including the amount paid in taxes. For instance, a veteran receiving a medical disability payment of \$40,000 — from which \$10,000, or 25 percent, is withheld for taxes — must pay back the entire \$40,000.

In a number of cases, severely disabled veterans who opted for lump-sum disability payments on separation got a double dose of bad news. Not only couldn't they draw VA disability pay, but they also were ineligible for Supplemental Security Income (SSI). Under Social Security rules, VA disability income reduces what a veteran can receive in SSI benefits. As a result, many of these veterans were left with only their lump-sum payments to live on for several years. The Legion has testified several times before Congress on the inequity of the law.

Unfair COLA Delays

Military retirees are being forced to carry a disproportionate share of the budget reduction under the rules of the Omnibus Reconciliation Act of 1993, according to Legion experts. In an effort to cut costs, Congress decided to delay cost-of-living-adjustments (COLA) of federal and military retirement pay.

In past years, federal and military retirees, disabled veterans and Social Security recipients received their COLAs each January. But the Omnibus Reconciliation Act of 1993 delayed this year's federal and military retiree COLAs until April 1. The equity ends there, however. Under the act, federal retirees will receive COLAs again in April 1995 and 1996, then return to January COLAs in 1997. But military retirees have to wait until October 1 of 1995 through 1998 for their annual COLA. Only in 1999, will they receive their COLA in January.

If nothing is done, military retiree COLAs will be delayed a total of 39 months while federal civilian retiree COLAs will only be delayed for nine months over the five-year period. In addition, proposals to reduce the military retiree's COLA by 1 percent or to delay military retiree COLAs until age 62 are resurfacing once more. Legion spokesmen have testified before Congress that the COLA delay unfairly dilutes the quality of life for military retirees.

Concurrent-receipt Bias

Another law has discriminated against military retirees for many years. It states that GIs are barred from receiving any VA disability compensation unless their retirement pay is reduced by the same amount of their disability compensation. Yet, congressmen and civilian federal employees can draw both their government retirement and their VA compensation at the same time.

The Legion has been fighting against this inequity for two decades. Now Sens. John McCain of Arizona, Sam Nunn of Georgia and Strom Thurmond of South Carolina, and more than 100 House members led by Rep. Mike Bilirakis of Florida, agree the law discriminates against military retirees.

Bilirakis has introduced H.R. 65, which would allow veterans to receive both military retirement pay and VA disability payments (referred to as "concurrent receipt") on a sliding scale that partially reduces retirement pay. Retirees who are 100 percent disabled would be allowed to draw both without penalty. But retirees with 90 percent disability would have to give up 10 percent of their retirement pay to receive VA disability compensation. Those who are 80 percent disabled would relinquish 20 percent of their retirement pay, and so on.

According to a spokesman from Senator McCain's office, if the House

passes H.R. 65, he is confident the Senate will pass a similar bill.

Legion Washington experts say the Pentagon strongly opposes changes to the concurrent-receipt law. Edwin Dorn, assistant Secretary of Defense for personnel and readiness, says there are nearly 500,000 disabled military retirees in the country. He claims that allowing them to draw both disability and retirement pay would cost the federal government more than \$50 billion during the lifetime of the veterans. Besides, Dorn told *Army Times*, military retirees were never promised concurrent receipt.

National Commander Bruce Thiesen was quick to respond to Dorn's comment. "How ironic that only career military people are denied concurrent receipt, while the self-serving lawmakers and bureaucrats are free to draw both their pensions and disability compensation without restrictions."

Thiesen urges Legionnaires to let Dorn know how they feel on both the concurrent receipt issue and the law requiring veterans to return separation or lump-sum medical disability money before they can draw VA compensation. His address is: Hon. Edwin Dorn, Assistant Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), The Pentagon, Room 3E764, Washington, D.C. 20301. Thiesen said Legionnaires should also contact their own senators and representatives. □

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Flag-Protection Campaign Steamrolls Ahead

IN a flurry of legislative action from the East Coast to Western plains, four more states have passed memorializing resolutions to protect the U.S. Flag from physical desecration.

New York, Minnesota, Arizona and Oklahoma passed the resolutions last spring, bringing the total of states to 43. The 43 states represent more than 90 percent of the total U.S. population — over 228 million people.

“I congratulate those states. This achievement is impressive, but not the end of our work,” said National Commander Bruce Thiesen. “Memorial resolutions are a reflection of the attitudes of the people. But these resolutions aren’t law, and we must expect more difficult hurdles as we move to amend the U.S. Constitution.”

The Legion campaign for flag protection began shortly after the Supreme Court ruled in 1989 that burning the flag in public protest is free speech and protected by the First Amendment. Since then, Legionnaires nationwide have been pressing their state legislatures to approve memorializing resolutions to protect the flag.

The battles to pass these resolutions have been hard fought.

“We pushed and pushed, and kept the pressure on until we finally got it,” says New York Department Adjutant Richard M. Pedro. “It was a historic debate. Forty-three legislators spoke and debated for more than



BANNER DAYS IN KANSAS—It takes 20 to 30 people to hoist this 50-foot by 30-foot flag on a 110-foot flag pole outside Post 26 in Girard, Kan. Post members say the flag is one of the largest in the world. National Vice Commander Curtis O. Twete of North Dakota is among the thousands who have visited the Post to see the flag.

four hours.”

Although 38 is the number of states needed to ratify a constitutional amendment, the Legion will continue its campaign to get all 50 states

to pass memorializing resolutions.

Only seven states have yet to pass resolutions to protect the flag. They are:

Hawaii

Iowa
Kentucky
North Carolina
Oregon
Vermont and
Washington.

PNC Renaud To Oversee VA Homeless Efforts

PAST National Commander Dale Renaud, the VA deputy assistant secretary for intergovernmental affairs, has been given the added responsibilities of overseeing VA’s efforts to help homeless veterans.

Renaud, who served as National Commander during 1985–86, will coordinate the VA’s homeless program with other government agencies and vet-

erans’ groups.

During a VA-sponsored Washington summit on homelessness in late February, VA Secretary Brown said he would seek an additional \$20 million for homeless veterans’ programs. Of that, \$5.2 million would be for grants to nonprofit groups that establish programs assisting homeless veterans.



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LEGION URGES EXPANDED VETERANS EDUCATION BENEFITS

GULF WAR veterans would receive improved education benefits under a plan proposed by The American Legion to Congress.

Assistant Director Kimo S. Hollingsworth of the Legion's Legislative Division told the House Veterans Affairs Subcommittee on Education, Training and Employment that current education benefits for veterans are inadequate. During the past 18 years, the cost of a four-year college education increased 240 percent, he said, but the current GI

Bill benefits only increased 3.6 percent.

"People who are trained and educated make more money, pay more taxes and spend more money," said Hollingsworth. "This new GI

Bill would be a wise investment in America's future."

The Legion plan would expand the current Montgomery GI Bill as follows:

- Service members' contributions to the plan would be in tax-free dollars.
- Veterans would have up to 10 years to use educa-

tion benefits without the current restrictions.

- Veterans' unused contributions would be refunded through a tax credit. Now they are kept by the government.

• Benefits could be used to pay existing education loans, which is not now the case.

• Veterans would receive health and child-care benefits while going to school, which is not now the case.

• Reservists and National Guard members would be eligible for the same education benefits as active duty members.

In other testimony before Congress, Legion spokesmen outlined the organization's positions on:

Veterans' Employment and Training Service (VETS). Recommended budgets of at least \$99.5 million for Disabled Veterans Outreach Program and \$87.1 million for Local Veteran Employment Representative Program. (Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services and Educa-

tion and House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services and Education).

Women veterans' health care. Urged adequate budgets for women veterans' health care, as outlined in the Veterans Health Care Act of 1992. (House Veterans Affairs Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations).

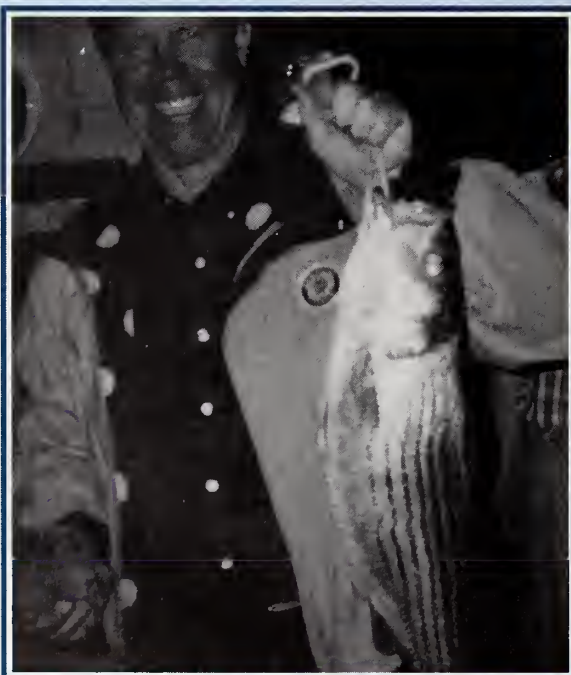
VA health care. Supported H.R. 3808, which would provide VA flexibility in staffing levels for the Veterans Health Administration. (House Veterans Affairs Subcommittee on Hospitals and Health Care).

1995 VA construction. Urged more money be spent to update and improve VA facilities and capabilities. (House Veterans Affairs Subcommittee on Hospitals and Health Care).

Homeless veterans. Supported VA's homeless assistance programs. (Senate Veterans Affairs Committee).

U.S. space program. Supported the continuation of the nation's space program. (House Science, Space and Technology Subcommittee on Space). □

THE LEGION IN CONGRESS



FISHY BUSINESS—National Commander Bruce Thiesen hooked a 15 lbs., 3 oz., striper in South Carolina's Santee Cooper Lakes. Thiesen, who was in South Carolina addressing the state legislature in March, took time from his busy schedule to best some South Carolina Legionnaires in a fishing tournament. According to one account, Past National Commander E. Roy Stone Jr. was gracious in defeat.

LEGION TIME AT HALF TIME

THE HALF-TIME show of the University of Minnesota-Penn State collegiate football game Sept. 3 will salute The American Legion's 75 years of service to veterans and the nation. Discount block seating is available for the game, which will be played during the Legion's 76th National Convention in Minneapolis, Sept. 2-8. The game begins at 6 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 3 in the Metrodome, a half mile from the Legion's convention site. Price of tickets are \$18 and \$7. To order, call (612) 624-8080. □

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VIADUCT DEDICATED TO FOUR CHAPLAINS

A VIADUCT in the Ohio town of Massillon spans a river, railroad tracks and a four-lane highway. Now, because of Legionnaires of Post 221, it also spans 51 years in a lasting tribute to the Four Chaplains who sacrificed their lives at sea aboard the U.S. Army Transport *Dorchester* during World War II.

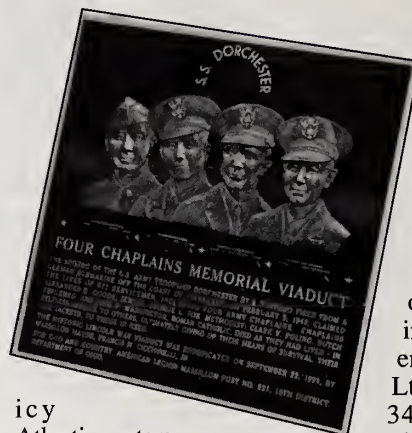
After six months of work by Post 221 members, the viaduct was dedicated to the Four Chaplains last fall. Among the dignitaries attending the dedication were Past National Commander Roger A. Munson, Archie T. Roberts, acting

Senior Chaplain of the Chapel of Four Chaplains and James A. Ward, Ohio's last *Dorchester* survivor, who turned 70 on dedication day.

Hundreds of spectators attended the dedication, which included a parade across the viaduct and the unveiling of two bronze plaques honoring the chaplains.

On Feb. 3, 1943, the *Dorchester* was traveling from Newfoundland to Greenland, a frequent U-boat hunting ground. In the early morning, a torpedo struck the transport's starboard side. Of the 902 men aboard, 672 died.

As the ship slipped into the



icy Atlantic waters, many soldiers were scrambling to survive. The four chaplains directed the frightened men to lifeboats and passed out lifejackets. When all of the lifejackets were gone, the chaplains

gave theirs.

The chaplains were: 1st Lt. Alexander D. Goode, 31, a rabbi from York, Pa.; 1st Lt. George L. Fox, 43, a Methodist minister from Gilman, Vt.; 1st Lt. Clark V. Poling, 32, a minister of the Reformed Church in America, from Schenectady, N.Y.; and 1st Lt. John T. Washington, 34, a Roman Catholic priest from Arlington, N.J.

The viaduct is part of the Lincoln highway, which stretches between Philadelphia and California. The original bridge was used by thousands of Americans to trek westward. □

RETIRED LEGION MAGAZINE EDITORS DIE

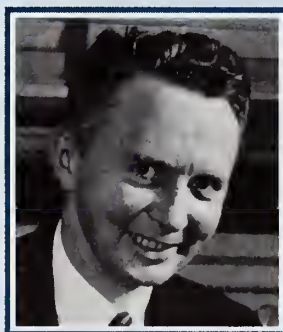
TWO longtime editors of THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE died in April: Joseph C. Keeley, 86, of Kingston, Pa.; and Robert B. Pitkin, 83, of Ozona, Fla.

Keeley served as the magazine's editor from 1949 to 1963. He came out of retirement to serve again as editor from 1978-79. The author of five books, he also wrote for many periodicals. After graduating from Columbia University in 1930, he worked in public relations and advertising until 1945, when he "left to accept a responsible position as a boot in

the Marine Corps." Keeley worked at the *Marine Corps Gazette* before joining THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE as its editor. He was a member of Post 395, Kingston, Pa.

Pitkin began working for THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE as an associate editor in 1946, direct from duty in the Pacific. In 1954, he became managing editor and in 1963, he became editor when Keeley retired. Pitkin retired in 1976 after 30 years' service to The American Legion.

A WWII Navy veteran, he served in New Guinea and the Philippines. He was also one of the organizing officers at the Navy Pre-Flight School, Chapel Hill, N.C. In 1943, he wrote the Navy's book on track and field athletics. He received a bachelor of science degree from Columbia Teachers College in 1941. Pitkin was a member of Post 1, Leonia, N.J. □



JOSEPH C. KEELEY



ROBERT B. PITKIN

LEGIONNAIRES IN ACTION

Post 165 of Paris, Ky., believes in sharing during the holidays. At Thanksgiving, the members sponsored a senior citizen dinner, preparing more than 150 meals. And at Christmas, the Post had a party for more than 100 children.

Post 64 of Sioux City, Iowa, presented WWI veteran George M. Paradise a commemorative WWI medal and certificate. Paradise joined Post 64 in 1919 and is a past Department Cmdr.

The Legion's family spirit extends far north, too. **Post 9 of Fort Pepperell, Manuels, Newfoundland,** hosts an annual family picnic.

Post 87 of Brewster, Wash., sponsored an awards ceremony to honor police officer Jerry Neumann, who saved a 4-year-old boy's life in a trailer fire. □

"How I Conquered Arthritis Pain!"

-Frankie Avalon

Years ago, I awoke one morning with severe pain in the fingers of both my hands. I looked at my watch, quickly showered, dressed, and headed for my regular golf game with my friends, praying that the pain would go away before I arrived at the country club. Well, the pain did not go away. As I attempted to grasp my golf club, the pain in the joints of my fingers was so severe, that I had to leave my pals and cancel my plans for the day.

I immediately went to my doctor who advised me that I was suffering from arthritis in my fingers. I told him that I needed to do something about the pain, especially since I was scheduled to start shooting 'Back To The Beach' with Annette Funicello in just a few weeks! He gave me two choices...take aspirin (no good, for it upsets my stomach) or cortisone shots (absolutely not, because of the possible side effects).

For the next few weeks, I must have tried every over the counter pain remedy on the market - all of which did nothing except make me smell like a walking hospital! On the very first day of filming with Annette, a scene called for me to knock on a door. It was embarrassing when the director had to stop the film to ask why I was using the palm of my hand instead of my knuckles to knock. The explanation upset me a great deal!

In a desperate search to find anything that would help, I finally discovered Zero Pain™ through an herbalist friend of mine. When I tried it, I couldn't believe the results. This stuff really did the trick. The pain was gone. The manufacturer

explained to me that Zero Pain™ is a unique herbal formula featuring 'Capsaicin' extract that works by penetrating deep and actually blocks the pain signals that lead to the brain. All I know is that it really worked! I was so excited about the product, that I have since dedicated a great deal of effort to share this amazing product with everyone. It turns out that I'm not the only one it has helped!

"I think it's the greatest product that ever came out, it really saved my life that I can get through a day without pain."
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Emily Turner



"Thanks to Zero Pain™, I still enjoy a good game of golf!" - Frankie Avalon

In my opinion, until there's a cure, Zero Pain™ is the best pain relief you can have. No matter if you're young or old, if you suffer from arthritic pain, strained back, or sore muscles, I urge you to try Zero Pain™. I know you'll be as amazed as I was. You have my personal guarantee. If you don't feel amazing relief from pain, simply return it for a full refund. Just fill out and mail in the coupon below. We'll rush out your order immediately!

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Yes Frankie,
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VETS is a service that provides information about military reunions, helps veterans find old buddies and arranges reunions, travel and accommodations.

REUNIONS INFORMATION

This month there are 406 military reunions listed on these pages. In addition, VETS has information on more than 12,000 other reunions. Call VETS weekdays, 12 noon to 8 p.m., CDT. Calls cost \$1.95 per minute. The average call takes two minutes.

1 (900) 933-VETS

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If you know the VETS five-digit number assigned to your ship or unit, please give it to the operator. The number is printed after each outfit's name listed in the magazine. If you don't know the VETS number or do not see your ship or unit listed in the magazine, VETS operators may still be able to provide you reunion information. Units are enrolling in VETS daily.

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Write Finders/Seekers, P.O. Box 10088, Columbia, MO 65205-4000.

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Reunion coordinators can enroll their units in VETS by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to VETS, P.O. Box 10088, Columbia, MO 65205-4000. Unit names are published one time per year.

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1st Arm'd Div. Assn. #16195
1st Cav. Div., 7th Rgt., 5th Bn. (Vietnam, 1966-71) #13538
1st Cav. Div., 8th Cav. Rgt., Hvy. Mort. Co. (1954-57) #13580
1st Cav. Div. Assn. #16387
1st Inf. Div.: Society of the First Div. "Blg

Red One" #15354
1st Medical Rgt. (Ft. Ord) #16582
2nd Arm'd Div. Arty., HQ Btry. (1950/53) #16297
2nd Arm'd Div. Assn. #15551
2nd Engr. Bde. (Spec.) #23116
2nd Inf. Div., 23rd Rgt. Assn. (Korea) #15400
2nd Inf. Div., 38th Rgt., K Co. "Indianhead" Assn. (WWII & Korea) #15821
2nd Inf. Div., 9th Rgt., L Co. (Korea, 1951-53) #16814
2nd Inf. Div., "Indianhead" Assn. (WWI/WWII/Korea) #10372
3rd & 4th Def. Bns. (Midway/Pearl Harbor) #16470

3rd Engr. Special Brigade, HQ & HQ Co. #20529
4th AAA #22887
4th Arm'd Div. Assn. #16402
4th Gen. Hospital #16598
4th Inf. Div., 1st Arm'd Cav., 2nd Sq., A/B/C/HQ Trp. (Vietnam) #14407
4th Inf. Div., 1st Arm'd Cav. Rgt., C Trp., 2nd Sq. (Vietnam) #14105
4th Inf. Div., 40th Tank Bn., (1950-57) #15543
5th Engr. Rgt., 5th Engr. (C) Bn. (WWII) #20545
5th Inf. Div., 10th Rgt., A Co. #16319
7th Engr. C Bn. #18718
7th Inf. Div., 184th Rgt. Assn. (WWII) #20667
9th Inf. Div., 39th Rgt. (A-A-A-O), I Co. #16180
9th Inf. Rgt. (Manchu Assn.) #18739
9th Patrol Sq. #18752
10th Mountain Div., 604th FA Art. Bn. #13969
11th AAA AW Bn. (SP) (All Eras) #16066
11th A/B Med. Bn., HQ/C/A Co. (1950-58) #13896
11th Arm'd Div. Assn. #16052
12th Arm'd Div. Assn. #16368
13th Major Port #22806
17th Air Cav., 7th Arm'd Sq., D Trp. #22040
18th Engr. Bde.: 19th Engr. (C) Bn. Assn. (Vietnam) #20143
19th Engr. (C) Bn. Assn. (Vietnam) #12623
20th Engr. (C) Rgt., 20th & 1340 Bns., 1171 Grp. HQ (WWII) #15365
21st Evac. Hospital #15686
24th Inf. Rgt. Combat Teams, 77th Eng. Combat Co., 159th FA Bn., 512th MP Co. #13946
25th Inf. Div.: 21st AAA (Korea, 1950-52) #22782
25th Inf. Div.: 5th Rgt., 1st Bn. Mech. (Nam) #11995
27th & 209th Engr. (C) Bn. (WWII) #13872
27th Engr. (C) Bn. (After WWII) #14260
27th FA Rgt. #13169
27th Inf. Div., 249th FA Bn. #15762
29th Inf. Div., 116th Rgt., M Co. (WWII) #13967
34th General Hospital (Korea, 1951-53) #20547
36th Grp., HQ Btry. #14995
37th Inf. Div., 166th Inf., D Co. #17865
37th Inf. Div., 166th Rgt., D Co. (Camp Shelby MS) 1940-41 #17409
38th Inf. Div., 151st Rgt., G Co. (WWII) #16075
38th Inf. Div., 151st Rgt., L Co. #10224
40th Cav. Recon. Trp. (WWII) #16208
40th Inf. Div., 160th Rgt., D & H Co. (WWII) #16689
40th Inf. Div., 160th Rgt., K Co. (WWII) #15743
40th Inf. Div. Assn. (Korea) #17217
40th Inf. Div. (Korea) #16427
41st Inf. Div. Assn., Minnesota/Dakota Chapt. #14939
42nd Inf. Div., 142nd Engr. (C) Bn. (WWI, WWII) #14976
42nd Inf. Div., 222nd/232nd/242nd Rgt. (WWI, WWII) #14978
42nd Inf. Div., 232nd/392nd/402nd/542nd FA Bn. (WWI, WWII) #14977
42nd Inf. Div., "Rainbow" Assn. (WWI, WWII) #16044
44th Engr. (C) Bn. Assn. (WWII) #16518
44th Inf. Div. (All Units) #13987
45th Inf. Div., 179th Rgt., G Co. (Korea) #22780
45th Inf. Div., 180th Rgt., D Co. #10491
45th TAAM Co. (ETO 1951/54) #15417
46th Arm'd Inf. Div., A Co. (1949) #15469
52nd Engr. (C) Bn., Co. C (WWII) #22885
66th Armor, Co D (Fort Campbell, KY) #22095
66th Inf. Div., 262nd Rgt., I Co. #13267
69th Inf. Div., 724th FA Bn., Btry. C (WWII) #15449
69th Inf. Div., 880th FA Bn., HQ Btry. Assn. #15671
69th Sig. Bn. #18717
69th Signal Bn. (WWII) #16674
76th Inf. Div. #16536
79th General Hospital (WWII) #16496
80th Inf. Div. Assn. (WWI, WWII) #12422
83rd Inf. Div., 331st Rgt., I Co. #20709
83rd Inf. Div., 331st Rgt., I Co. (WWII) #16416
84th Inf. Div. "Rallsplitter Soc" #15955
88th Chem. Mortar Bn. #16094
88th Inf. Div., 351st Rgt., Tank Co. (Trust Tankers Assn.) #20177
89th Chem. Mortar Bn. #10691
95th Inf. Div. Assn. #16110
96th Inf. Div. Assn. #16567
97th Inf. Div., 303rd Rgt., 1st Bn., HQ Co. (WWII) #10285
97th Inf. Div., 303rd Inf., Co. M WWII #15639
102nd Inf. Div. Assn. #15811
102nd Inf. Div. (WWII) #13938
103rd Inf. Div., 410th Rgt., C Co. (WWII) #15843
103rd Inf. Div. (WWII) #21864
105th Station Hospital (WWII) #22954
107th Engr. Bn., Co. C #17229
107th Engr. Rgt. & Bn. Assn. (Mich. NG) #20043
115th FA Bn. #16562
118th Sign. Radio Int. Co. (WWII) #22502
122nd Station Hospital #16284
125th AAA Gun Bn. (WWII) #16565
140th Ord HM Co. #21656
142nd FA, 142nd Ord. HM #22834
156th Gen. Hosp. #13753
157th Engr. (C) Bn. (WWII) #15588
164th Inf., F Co. - (WWII/Korea) #15764
175th MP Assn., Co. C (1950-52) #13954
177th FA, 1st Bn., HQ Btry. #16283
190th FA Grp. Assn. (WWII) #16281
196th FA Bn. #20665
202nd Combat Engr. Bn., C Co. - (WWII) #16397
202nd Engr. (C) Bn., C Co. - (WWII) #16187
207th MP Co. (1941-45) #11531
209th Engr. (C) Bn. (WWII) #13743
209th Engr. (C) Bn. (WWII) #13755
215th CA (AA) #16605
216th AAA Gun Bn. #16542
235th FA Obsn. Bn. (Korea) #15808
246th Signal Oper. Co. (WWII) #16607
250th FA Bn. (WWII) #21659
254th Engr. (C) Bn. #23008
258th FA Bn. #15943
272nd FA Bn. - (WWII) #15573
282nd Engr. (C) Bn., C Co. (WWII) #13726
292nd Engr. (C) Bn. #16507
337th-1338th Engr. Combat Grp. #13436
339th RCT (All Units), Polar Bear Assn. (WWII) #15251
354th MP Co. #13927
406th AAA Gun Bn. & 367th Engr. (C) Bn. (WWII) #15002
413th/523rd Ord. Cos. #15826
414th Engrs. (WWII) #15979
439th Engr. Const. Bn. (Korea) #14354
451st AAA AW Bn. #11524
462nd Ord. Evac. Co. (WWII) #16225
476th AAA AW Bn. (WWII) #15222
479th Med. Amb. Co. (WWII) #13752
480th AAA AW Bn. (WWII) #16162
509th Engr. (P-B) #15378
522nd Engr. Co. #23009
522nd Ord. H.M.F.A. Co. #16590
532nd EB & SR, E Co. (WWII) #10152
547th Engr. (C) Bn. #16046
548th AAA Bn. #20778
551st M.P.E.G. Co. (WWII) #13903
557th Ord. HM Co. (TK) #20123
602nd Engr. Camouflage Bn. #16635
631st TD Bn. #10667
652nd Tank Dest. Bn., Recon. Co. #16143
692nd TD Bn. #15601
693rd Port Co. #16403
718th R.O.B. #16154
730th Eng. Depot Co. (WWII) #13937
737th Tank Bn. Assn. #20203
743rd Railway Oper. Bn., C Co. #20840
760th FA Bn. Assn. #20860
764th Railway Shop Bn. #16253
778th Tank Bn. - (WWII) #11109

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789th AAA AW Bn. #10019
808th Engr. Avn. Bn. (Okinawa, 1954-55) #14956
821st Engr. Avn. Bn., A Co. (WWII) #15572
842nd Engr. Avn. Bn. (WWII) #16874
847th Ord. Depot Co. (1943-46) #15675
924th Engr. Avn. Rgt., H&S Co. - (WWII) #15921
1253rd Engr. (C) Bn. (ETO WWII) #13349
1256th Engr. (C) Bn. #15467
1620th MP Unit (Camp McCoy, Wisconsin) #13442
1906th Engr. Avn. Bn. #15985
3482nd Ord., MAM Co. (WWII) #15832
3498th Engr. Amphib., 2nd Brgde. #13547
ASA: 353rd Comm. Recon. #13153
ASA: 3rd RRU (Phu Bai, Hue & Saigon) #14092
ASA: 8604th Field Station, Eritrea (1953/56) #11286
Dusters, Quads & Searchlight Units (Delta to DMZ) #20753
Dyersburg Army Air Base (1942-46) #14962
Korean War Ex-POW's #13504
Outpost Harry Survivors Assn. (Korea 1953) #12791
Sioux Army Depot, Gold & Silver Reunion #22873
V Corps., 36th FA Grp., 18th/517th/519th/631st FA Bn. (Ger., All Yrs.) #18755

Navy

20th NCB (WWII) #18558
25th NCB Spec. (WWII) #17984
50th NCB #17357
96th NCB (Incl. 589, 590, 613, 1048, 3050 & Widows of 96th) #17576
99th NCB #13908
110th NCB #18030
112th NCB (WWII) #11674
115th NCB Seabee Veterans of America (WWII) #17946
121st NCB #13818
123rd NCB #10913
ASE Tech. Assn., Worldwide (Incl. Marines) #18754
CAG-16 (WWII) #21898
Chincoteague Vets (VX-2) #13899
Chincoteague Vets (VX-2) #13899
Corry Boat Camp/Sq. 8C #18617
LC-(RB)-2 #13573
LCS-14 (Okinawa, Pckt. Sta. #10) #13371
LCS-25 (Okinawa, Pckt. Sta. #10) #13372
LCS-83 (Okinawa, Pckt. Sta. #10) #13373
LCS (L) 101 (WWII) #11134
LCS (L) 102 (WWII) #13760
LCS (L) 1-130 National Assn. #30084
LCS (L) 128 (1944/46) #17456
LCS (L) (3) 11 #11457
LCS (L) (All classes, WWII) #15377
LSM-110 (Korea) #12010
LSM-312 (PTO WWII) #13883
LSM-(R)-195 (Okinawa, Pckt. Sta. #10) #13374
LSM-(R)-197 #18724
LST-356 (USS Warhoop) #17718
LST-377 (PTO WWII) #18102
LST-460 #17593
LST-621 Assn. #17753
LST-625 Assn. #30087
LST-711 #18729
LST-803 #17322
LST-805 #17970
LST-809 #11613
LST-820 #13614
LST-880 (WWII) #18161
LST-890 #15038
MCB-4 "Seabees" (Vietnam) #11562
NAS Twin Cities (Minnesota) #10261
Navsco Det. B., Navastrogro Det. B. #13554
NTC Bainbridge Co. 1436, Bks. 125 Lower (Boats) Jul-Sep 1944 #13579
NTS, Great Lakes, Boot Camp Co. 1901 (Oct. 1944) #13930
P2V Neptune Pilots & Crew Assn.

#11749
PC-1235 & PC-558 #10856
PCE-845 #13973
SC-726 (PTO WWII) #14997
Seabees of America - NSVAN Nat'l Conv. #21902
SLCU-36 / Boat Pool Baker (Okinawa 1945) #14878
Submarine Veterans of U.S. Nat'l Conv. (All Yrs.) #12345
USN Radiomans Assn. #21017
USS Aaron Ward DM-34 (Okinawa, Pckt. Sta. #10) #13370
USS Albany Assn. CL-23/CA-123/CG-10/SSN-753 & Marines #10176
USS Algal AKA-54 (All Eras) #17809
USS Allen DD-66 #22222
USS Ashland LSD-1 & LSD-48 #17499
USS Barrow PA-61 (1945/46) #22006
USS Beale DD/DDE-471 #18516
USS Bennington CV/CVA/CVS-20 Assn. (1944-1970) #13237
USS Bon Homme Richard CV/CVA-31 (Incl. Air Grps.) S-1 Div. WWII #18065
USS Borie DD-704 (WWII) #18550
USS Boxer Assn. CV/CVA/CVS-21; LPH-4 (Marines Incl.) #18070
USS Brinkley Bass DD-887 #11253
USS Bristol County (LST-1198) #18738
USS Brush DD-745 #18076
USS Bugara SS-331 #13910
USS Carmick DD-493/DMS-33 #18600
USS Cascade AD-16 #12142
USS Catskill LSV-1 #18305
USS Chemung AO-30 #18077
USS Chemung AO-30 (West Coast) #12817
USS Cloves DE-265 #13719
USS Cloves DE-265 (WWII) #13699
USS Corregidor CVE-58 #18434
USS Cortland APA-75 (WWII) #17649
USS Cotten DD-669 #18087
USS Crouter DE-11 (WWII) #18403
USS Cubera SS-347 #16537
USS Cutlass (SS-478) #13486
USS Dale DD-353 #17514
USS Dashiell DD-659 #18129
USS Des Moines CA-134 #18590
USS Dobbin AD-3 & Destroyers Alongside (12-07-41) #18094
USS Endicott DD-495/DMS-35 (WWII, Korea) #17971
USS Essex CV/CVA/CVS-9 #18567
USS Fechteler DD-870 #13633
USS Fomalhaut AKA-5 Assn. #14993
USS Forrestal CVA/CV/AVT-59 (All Personnel Incl. Mar. Det.) #18458
USS Forster DE-334 #14941
USS Fort Snelling LSD-30 #21701
USS Ft. Shelling LSD-30 #13955
USS George A. Johnson DE-583 #10236
USS Gillespie DD-609 #28311
USS Gillespie DD-609 (1942/45) #12852
USS Great Sitkin AE-17 (1951/55) #11596
USS Grundy APA-11 and Griggs APA-110 #13679
USS Hammerberg DE-1015 #10810
USS Harry F. Bauer DM-26 #14511
USS H.F. Bauer DM-26 #14975
USS Higbee DD/DDR-806 #18692
USS Hobby DD-610 (1942-45) #18535
USS Holder DD/DDE-819/DE-401 #10026
USS Houston CA-30/CL-81 Assn. #10311
USS Hulbert DD-342/AVP-19/AVD-6 (WWII) #22382
USS Intrepid CV/CVA/CVS-11 & Sq (1943/74) #30083
USS Iowa BB-61 Vets Assn. #17765
USS Josephus Daniels DLG/CG-27 (All Years) #12060
USS Kalb DD-611 #10895
USS Kendrick DD-612 (WWII) #14333
USS Kidd DD-661 Assn (DESRON-48) #21187
USS Lakewood AK-236 (WWII) #30120
USS Lang DD-399 #18220
USS Lauderdale APA-179 #11636
USS Leedstown AP-73 Survivors #22695
USS Little DD-803 #13368
USS LSC (L) #102 #13678
USS Manatee AO-58 #17766
USS Medusa AR-1 #17766
USS Mervine DD-489/DMS-31 #13826

USS Mountrall APA-213 #14388
USS Pamanset AO-85 #17459
USS Perkins DD/DDR-877, DD-377, DD-26 #10607
USS Philadelphia CL-41 #10705
USS Pittsburgh CA-72 (WWII, Korea) #10599
USS Pollack SSN-603 #18743
USS Preble (DLG-15/DDG-46) #21522
USS President Jackson (APA-18) Assn. - (Unholy Four) #18125
USS Raby DE-698 #13447
USS Rainier AE-5 #18272
USS Ranger CV/CVA-61 Assn (1957-93) #17742
USS Rehoboth AVP/AGS-50 (WWII) #22540
USS Robert Brazier DE-345 #13769
USS Ronquil SS-396 (1944-71) #13761
USS Ronquill SS-396 (1944-71, All Hands) #13729
USS San Francisco CA-38 #17805
USS Silverbell AN-51 (1944/46) #11279
USS Slrona AKA-43 (WWII) #22570
USS Solace AH-5 #17958
USS Southerland DD/DDR-743 (1950-55) #22086
USS Springfield CL-66/CLG-7/SSN-761 Bluejackets Inc #18364
USS Stevenson DD-645 #14459
USS Teaberry AN-34 #13536
USS Thomas J. Gary DE/DER-326 #18579
USS Topeka CL-67 (1944-49) #17582
USS Topeka CLG-8 (1959-70) Incl. Marines #17482
USS Umpqua ATA-209 #17330
USS Vincennes CA-44/CL-64/CG-49 #18257
USS Wadleigh DD-689 (Plankowners, WWII) #18265
USS Wharton AP-7 Associates #10928
V-5/V-12 Minot State University #13686
VA-35, VA-3A, VB-3, VB-4, VB-3B (1934-94) "Black Panthers" #13531
VP-892 (July 1950-Sep 1951) #14891
WAVES: National Assn. #18134
West Virginia "First All Veterans" #18368

Air Force

7th Air Div. (SAC), 3910th Bomb Grp. (Eng. 1950/53) #10110
86th, 87th, 320th, 321st Transport Sq., 519th, 520th Serv. Sq. #13989
86th, 87th, 320th, 321st Transport Sqds., 519th, 520th Serv. Sqds. #13990
347th Combat Cargo Sq., 10th AF #13530
366th Bomb Grp. Assn. (WWII) 8th & 9th AF #20389
525th Ftr. Intrcpt. Sq. (Blitburg Germany) #14792
676th Radar Sq. #15118
735th AC&W Sq. (Fr. Morocco 1954/56) #11432
3912th Air Base Sq. (Wyton RAF Sta. 1950/53) #17243
Charleston AF Station Reunion (All Units, 1951-82) #14919
Pilot Class 54-G #14982
Pilot Class 54-G #16533
Tan Son Nhut Assn. #18740
Veterinary 908X0 Career Fld. #13912

Army Air Forces

9th Photo Recon. Sq. (C.B.I. WWII) #16917
15th TC Sq., 61st TC Gp. #22346
27th ATG Assn., 310th/311th/312th/325th Ferrying Sqs. (ETO WWII) #16857
43rd Bomb Grp. (H) Assn. (WWII) #11003
52nd Ftr. Grp., 5th Ftr. Sq. (WWII) #20989
95th Bomb Grp. (B-17's over Berlin) #28357
325th Ftr. Grp. "Checkertails" Assn. (WWII) #22757
344th Serv. Sq. #16915
349th Trp. Carrier Grp.; HQ, 23rd, 311th,

312th, 313th, 314th Sqs. (WWII) #16847
351st Bomb Grp. (WWII/England) #15084
376th Bomb Grp. (H) (WWII) #12382
405th Ftr. Grp., 509th-511th Ftr. Sq. (WWII, ETO, P-47) #13618
447th Bomb Grp. (8th AF) #12538
451st Bomb Grp., 451st Stat. Wing #16869
487th Bomb Grp. (H) Assn. (AF Station 137, Lavenham England, WWII) #10463
871st Airborne Engrs. Bn. #10322
926th Signal Bn. Sep. TAC (ETO WWII) #10208
Cadet Class 44-48N (Navigators & Gunners) #13629
Pampa Army Airfield #18707
Pre-Meteorology Cadet School Alumni (Reed College, 1943-44) #16625

Marines

1st Mar. Div., 1st Rgt., 1st Bn., C Co. (Korea, 1950-51) #13961
1st Mar. Div., 1st Rgt., 1st Bn., C Co. (Korea, WWII) #21297
1st Mar. Div., 1st Rgt., 3rd Bn. Assn. (WWII, 1941/45) #30006
1st Mar. Div., 5th Rgt., 1st Bn., C Co. (WWII) #11966
1st Mar. Div., 5th Rgt., 3rd Bn. (Korea 1950/55) #17203
1st Mar. Div., 7th Rgt., 3rd Bn., I Co. (Vietnam) #17179
1st Mar. Div. Assn. (1941/Present) #10848
3rd Mar. Div., 3rd Rgt., 1st Bn. (Vietnam 1967/69) #11217
3rd Mar. Div., 9th Rgt., 1st Bn., A Co. #13963
4th Rgt., 2nd Bn. Assn. #10545
5th Marines (Vietnam, 1969-70) #13922
8th Amph Trac Bn, B Co (1944/45) #12980
8th Amtrac Bn. (WWII) #13771
9th Engineer Bn. Vietnam (65-70) #13183
10th Amp. Trac. Bn., Co. C (WWII) #13528
FLSG-B All Units (1966-70) #13923
Nittay Leathernecks Detachment (MCL) #14944
Subic Bay Survivors #23067
Tri-State Area Marine Corps. League #13885
USMCR Evansville IN, C Co. (1950-51) #18756
VMA-225, MAG-12, 1st MAW (Chu-Lai 1965) #17185
VMO/VMF-155 (WWII) #28303
VMS-3 #17123
VMSB-343 #17232

Coast Guard

Grand Haven Coast Guard Festival, Inc. (Everyone Invited) #23012
USCG ALL WLB #18732
USCG Ingham W-35 #17067
USCG Modoc W-46: N. Atlantic Convoys (1941/45) #17036
USCG Woodbine #17032
USS Cepheus AKA-18 Alumni (WWII) #17042

Miscellaneous

Asmara Alumni Assn. (All Mililt. & Civ. Eritrea) #18746
Civilian Conservation Corps Alumni #14979
Civilian Conservation Corps Camp Raleigh #14516
Stars & Stripes Assn. #10736
St. Norbert College (1939-50) #13994
Ton Son Nhut Reunion (Any Pers. Serv.) #15373
Vietnam Veterans, Nebraska #10950
William Beaumont Gen. Hosp.: Dental Tech. Schl. (12/43-3/44) #13328
WWII Amputees @ McCloskey Gen. Hosp. (Temple, TX) #14980

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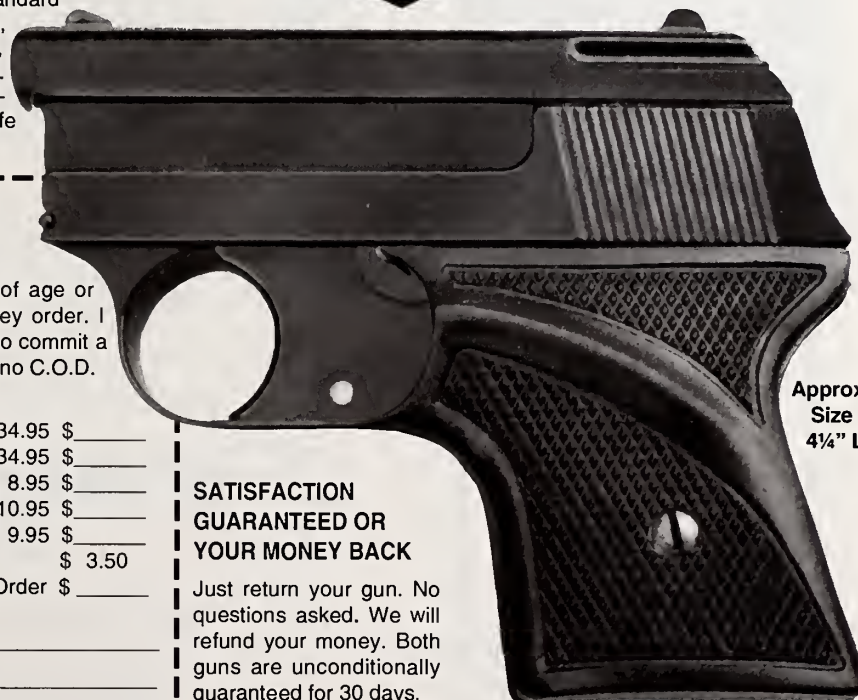
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THE FATHER OF FLAG DAY

Continued from page 18

phlet on "Laws and Customs Regulating the Use of the Flag of the United States" was widely distributed.

Cigrand's avocation as a flag advocate, however, did not detract from his practice of dentistry. As well as private practices in Chicago, Batavia and Aurora, he also served on the faculties of Northwestern University and the University of Illinois, and became the dean of the Illinois School of Dentistry. He served for many years as the president of the American College of

Dental Surgery and was president of the Chicago Public Library.

In 1889, Cigrand also assisted in shaping the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. When World War I arrived, he served as a Navy lieutenant and later petitioned President Woodrow Wilson to recognize the flag with its own day of observance.

Wilson proclaimed the national observance of Flag Day on June 14, 1916, much to the approval of Cigrand.

Bernard J. Cigrand died at age 65 on May 16, 1932. He is buried in Aurora, Ill., where he lived for many years. — R.M. □

THE LEGION & THE FLAG

Continued from page 18

icant part in creating the U.S. Flag Code.

That year, a National Flag Conference was held on June 14 and 15 to establish rules for proper respect and display of the flag.

Legionnaire Garland W. Powell, past national director of the Americanism Commission, was named chairman of the conference, which included more than 80 patriotic organizations. Under Powell's leadership, the conference drafted a preliminary set of rules. When the conference met again on May 15, 1924, it approved the first U.S. Flag Code.

With the full weight of the Legion behind it, the code became law on June 22, 1942, and has been amended five times since then.

Through the years, the Legion and the Flag have become almost synonymous to a large percentage of Americans.

Legionnaires in cities, towns and villages across the nation are always first to ensure that schools and public buildings have flags, and that veterans' graves here and overseas are decorated with flags on Memorial Day, Veterans Day and other patriotic holidays.

The Legion's Americanism Commission annually answers

about 1,600 letters and phone calls about proper flag etiquette. At the Legion's 1983 National Convention in Seattle, Legionnaire Leon Hagan and two buddies noticed the flag outside the convention site was not lit at night. Hagan and his friends took turns all night aiming their flashlights until daybreak.

Members of the Americanism Commission and staff regularly write to businesses that violate provisions of the code, especially when they notice companies using the flag inappropriately in advertising.

But no act of flagrant disrespect for the flag angered Legionnaires more than when it was displayed on the floor for visitors to walk on at the Chicago Art Institute in 1988.

Nor has any legal decision shocked Legionnaires more than the Supreme Court's 1989 decision, *Texas v. Johnson*, that permits flag burning as a form of free speech. That ruling prompted Legionnaires to pass Resolution 355 at the 1989 National Convention calling for a constitutional amendment to protect the flag from physical desecration.

"Four Gallup surveys and 43 states have demonstrated what the will of the American people is," says National Commander Bruce Thiesen. "They want their flag protected, and so does The American Legion." — R.M. □

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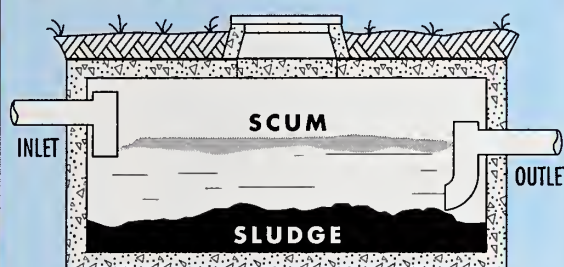
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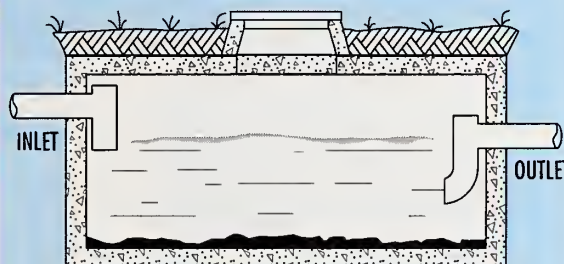
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RELIGION

Continued from page 27

But I am urging that we accept the legitimacy of making a religious argument even when we disagree with the conclusion.

Q. Do you personally experience ridicule in your life as a professor and an attorney?

A. Many religious people involved with secular institutions of learning — many professionals in general — do lots of self-censorship. There are things we just don't say in order to avoid ridicule.

Throughout much of our society, those who pray regularly — those who believe in God — are encouraged to keep it a secret. Religion is treated as a hobby at best, something we shouldn't go nutty about.

Q. How is religion important in your life?

A. Religion is one of — if not *the* — defining characteristics of our family life.

My wife and I decided we wanted our two children to have a strongly religious upbringing, meaning that we want them to have a relationship to Jesus Christ. My children go to religious schools. We pray before meals. We do Bible readings at home. The four of us sit together and discuss what it would take to do God's will and how we can be better Christians.

While we of course go to church on Sundays, in some ways I believe it's not as important as what goes on in our house. Religion is featured in our lives on a daily basis.

Q. Do you believe the United States is a Christian nation?

A. It depends on what you mean. Certainly, the nation's founders and many of our most fundamental values are steeped in the Judeo-Christian tradition, and about 85 percent of Americans identify themselves as Christians.

But the trouble is, when powerful political figures make claims about America being a Christian nation, there's a suggestion that Christianity is the "right" religion for America and that not being a Christian makes a person somehow less American. That's very troubling.

Q. Why then did the Supreme

Court rule [in *Wallace vs. Jaffree* 1985] that it was unconstitutional for an Alabama school to begin its day with a minute of silence?

A. This is one of those decisions that makes the court look bad because it seems it is saying that prayer itself is the enemy. I don't think a moment of silence at the beginning of a school day is unconstitutional. In fact I think it is a good idea.

But when the court struck it down, it did so in the belief that it was a subterfuge — that its supporters really wanted the kids to pray. My attitude is, so what? A moment of silence allows students a choice to pray, to meditate or merely to stay silent. And that is perfectly constitutional. That some legislators hoped the students would pray, doesn't change this.

Q. Do you believe the Supreme Court doesn't take religion seriously?

A. It does not take seriously the idea that religion is a genuine expression of the human personality. Instead it is treated as something unimportant in human life — indeed, as something people simply could change if their present religion somehow becomes inconvenient to the state. That attitude has characterized court decisions for the past 20 years. When the state's interests bump up against a religion's, the court too often says, in effect, that there are plenty of other religions, so pick a new one.

Q. Although the Supreme Court seems to have given the green light to teach about religion, public school educators are staying away from it. Why?

A. That's true. Most legal scholars agree there are no constitutional barriers to public schools teaching about religion. Teaching the Bible as literature or a history of religions would be fine.

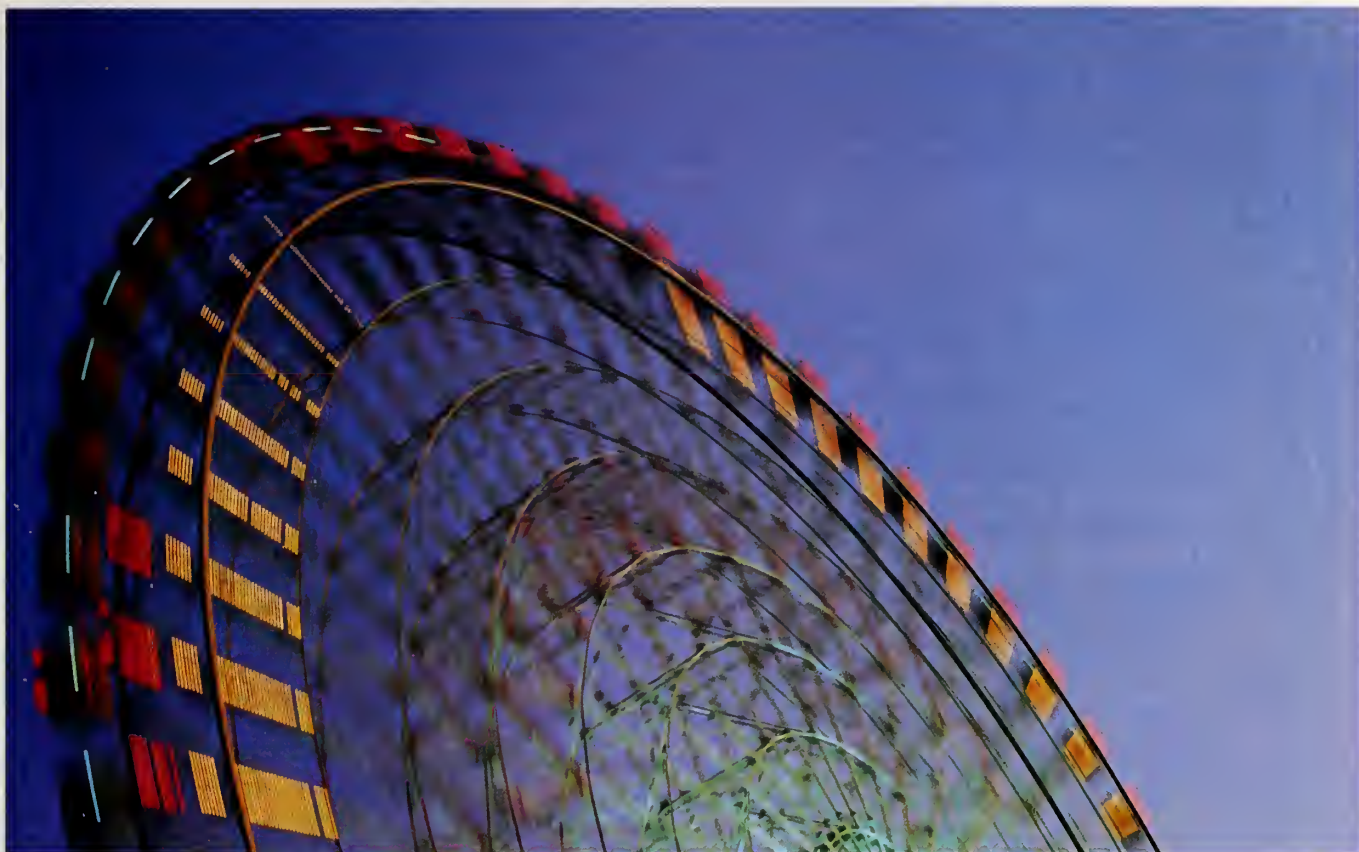
What's happened, however, is that public schools fear that if they teach about religion somehow, somewhere they will cross the line of church-state separation and will get called on the carpet. It's easier, they think, to simply not do it.

Many studies of school curricula have complained about this and it's not just a conservative issue. People for the American Way has also argued that schools *should* teach about religion, and if they don't, they are slighting American history.

Incidentally, in teaching about the

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RELIGION

Continued from page 27

role of religion in history, I'm not talking about whitewash. There are bad as well as good things to say. You've got to teach it all because, if you don't, you're leaving out important influences in American history.

Q. Is an upshot that public schools

also have veered away from teaching values and morals?

A. They haven't totally veered away, but they have gone a long distance. Some argue that schools cannot teach values because there are sharp disagreements, but we have disagreements about many things that nonetheless are taught.

The traditional vision of how values are reinforced is that there's a three-legged stool — the family, the place of worship, and the school. Families are breaking down so one leg is already weak. If schools get out of the business

of trying to reinforce positive values, where will it be done?

Q. What do you think of the Aya-tollah's death warrant on writer Salman Rushie, whose novel, *Satanic Verses*, was said to blaspheme Islam?

A. It's horrible. But what I worry about are the people who fasten on this and say, "That's the problem with religion. Religious people are like that."

This overlooks the fact that all over the world secular governments punish people — sometimes murder them — for their beliefs. Certainly, the leadership of Iran deserves the condemnation it has received for refusing to rescind the death order. But let's not confuse this with a problem with religion.

Q. Does the World Trade Center bombing say something about Islam?

A. While the bombers shared a common religion, we have to be careful about ascribing their actions to their religious beliefs — saying, in other words, that Islamic believers are dangerous fanatics.

This is hardly the case, but that is precisely what the media has suggested about Islam. Many articles said they were acting out a religious ideal, but the bombers were clearly acting out a political vision.

Q. You claim that religions are most useful when they take an active role on issues that raise the most controversies. Why is that?

A. One of religion's strengths is providing a vantage point from which moral critiques of society can be offered.

That's what the Sanctuary movement and Operation Rescue do. Such activism — particularly when people are willing to be arrested — has a respectable pedigree in American history.

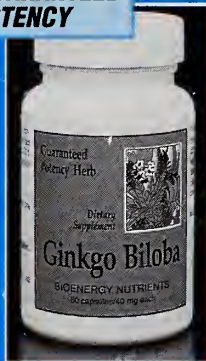
Religious dissenters may well lead to improved moral judgment for the rest of us. They need not always win, however. Sometimes it is good, as with the abolitionists. Sometimes it is good that they lose, as with the preachers who opposed desegregation.

The larger point, though, is that it's absolutely vital that the religious voice be involved in *all* our moral and political controversies. Everybody should agree that as a nation we are in a moral crisis.

We desperately need sober moral conversation and we cannot afford to exclude some voices because they happen to be religious. □

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GI BILL

Continued from page 36

single package, many bills would die and others would be rewritten beyond recognition.

The challenge was to create an all-encompassing piece of legislation and somehow avoid congressional turf wars to get the bill passed.

When the Dec. 15 meeting ended, committee member and attorney Harry W. Colmery of Kansas walked to Suite 570 of the Mayflower Hotel carrying notes from the meeting and resolutions from the National Convention and the Fall National Executive Committee meeting. That night, he translated the Legion's goals into legislative language.

Writing in longhand on hotel stationery (now on display at National Headquarters in Indianapolis), he penned the first draft of the Service-

men's Readjustment Act of 1944. The key components of the bill were:

- Educational opportunities, including college.
- Vocational and on-the-job training.
- Readjustment allowances.
- Loan guarantees to help veterans buy homes, farms and small businesses.
- Discharge reviews.
- Adequate hospitalization.
- Prompt claim settlements.
- Effective job placement or employment.

• Consolidation of all veterans benefits under VA and giving VA priority hiring authority if it needed more personnel to administer benefits.

When Colmery presented the draft to the committee the next day, it quickly became apparent the official title was a mouthful. It was the Legion's Publicity Director, Jack Cejnar, who came up with a nickname, the GI Bill of Rights.

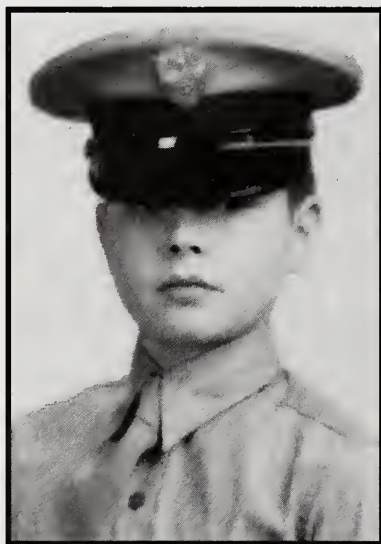
The bill was introduced into the Senate on Jan. 10, 1944, by Missouri Sen. Bennett C. Clark, one of the founders of The American Legion. The next day, Massachusetts Rep. Edith N. Rogers and Mississippi Rep. John Rankin introduced it in the House. Ironically, the bill would almost die later because of Rankin's stubborn opposition to the employment clause.

The Legion had learned a lesson from the watered-down veterans' bonus of the year before. It was not going to allow the GI Bill legislation to languish in the hands of lawmakers. A nationwide campaign was immediately launched to drum up grassroots support for the bill. Much of the credit for getting the word out belongs to the American Legion Auxiliary, which worked tirelessly for the cause.

A team of Legionnaires headed by Stelle was assigned to track congressional support for the bill. While Harry Colmery is credited with drafting the legislation, Stelle was the engine that drove the bill, going from office to office on Capitol Hill bringing lawmakers over to the Legion's side.

Stelle's team had learned its lessons well. Even when a congressman voiced support for the GI Bill, follow-ups calls were made. Meanwhile, Frank Reilly of Hearst newspapers conducted opinion polls in legislators' states and polled legislators themselves to track support for the bill.

Stelle often came back from visit-



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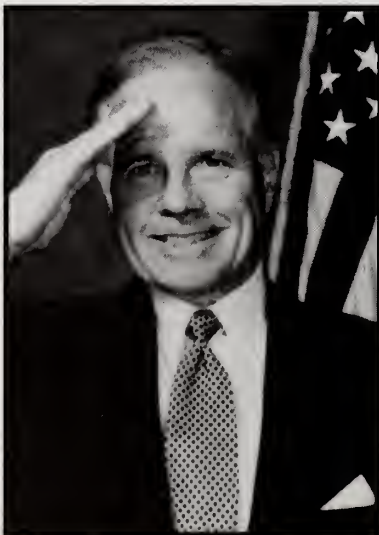
I was lucky. Born in 1933, I was only 10 years old during the Big One. Too young to serve, but as a summer cadet at Valley Forge Military Academy I remember following the action on all fronts in the war maps of the daily newspapers, William Bendix movies, Bill Mauldin's cartoons and in the great photographs of *Life* magazine.

In 1950-53, Korea, I was still in high school and the ROTC in college. Served two years active duty in the peacetime Army at White Sands Proving Ground, but never got called for Vietnam. By that time I was too old.

Would I have served if called? Gladly! Do I respect those who fought to keep America and the World safe and free? Immensely! I don't think our country thanks our noble veterans nearly enough! Sure the politicians make a few speeches, maybe even throw a big parade, but one on one, person to person man to man, I hereby declare my appreciation, admiration and personal salute to you for protecting me, my family and my country. Long Life, Congratulations and Thanks! I salute you!

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ing a lawmaker saying "So-and-so is for us." But Reilly would shake his head and say, "Not according to what he is saying on the phone or at home." Instantly, the Legion forces in that state were marshaled. Local Legionnaires went to work preparing press releases, public service radio announcements and newsreels for local theaters. Washington was deluged with more than a million pieces of mail supporting the GI Bill.

Everything seemed to be going the Legion's way. Then, on Feb. 16, 1944, trouble suddenly came from an unexpected quarter.

A LETTER opposing the bill — especially the education assistance part — was sent to members of Congress. It was written and signed by the leaders of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), the Disabled American Veterans (DAV), the Regular Veterans Association and the Military Order of the Purple Heart. They feared the cost of the GI Bill's education programs would send the nation into a financial crisis.

Legion Committee Chairman Stelle authorized Hearst reporter Camelon to act as a Legion emissary to the VFW and DAV. Camelon succeeded in convincing the VFW that the Legion's position was sound. He was successful, in part, because he found that while VFW leaders opposed the GI Bill, VFW membership overwhelmingly supported it.

The DAV, however, remained adamantly opposed. No amount of discussion could change the DAV leader's mind. DAV's Millard Rice sent letters to Congress objecting this time to the "52-20" language which guaranteed returning veterans unemployment benefits of \$20 a week for up to 52 weeks. Rice claimed "lazy and chisley types" of veterans would take unfair advantage of the benefit. (Rice's fears proved groundless. Of the 9 million eligible WWII veterans, only about 900,000 used 52-20, and then only for an average of 18 weeks.) The letter was the excuse lawmakers opposed to the GI Bill needed to vote against it.

But public opinion was firmly behind the Legion.

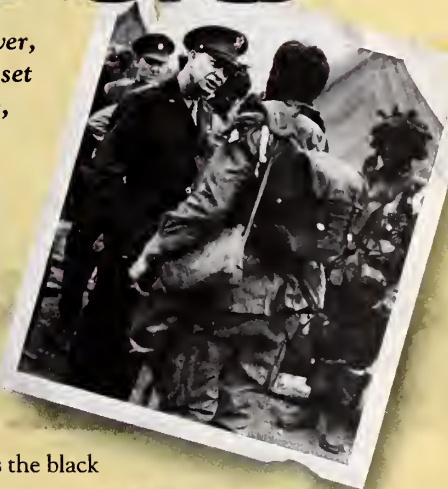
After hammering out seemingly endless differences over the bill's language and content, and finally with the endorsement of most veterans' organizations, Sen. Clark brought the bill to his committee for a vote on March 13. It was unanimously approved. It then

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GI BILL

Continued from page 57

went to the Senate floor with 81 sponsors and was passed unanimously.

The House of Representatives, however, was another story. Rep. Rankin now opposed the bill because of its unemployment provisions. He sat on the bill, refusing to allow it to come before his committee. Legislative Director Sullivan wired Legion Departments in committee members' states. A flood of support for the bill arrived in the form of phone calls, telegrams and letters. In a rare move, members of Rankin's committee overrode him and passed the bill.

On May 18, the House version of the GI Bill passed the House with a 387-0 vote.

But minor differences in the Senate and House versions of the bill still had to be worked out by a joint committee. Under the rules, a majority of both House and Senate members had to agree on the compromise, or the bill would die.

Georgia Rep. John D. Gibson, a member of the joint committee, favored the GI Bill, but went home to recuperate from an illness. Before leaving Washington, he authorized Rankin to cast his vote by proxy. When the vote came on June 9, the committee was deadlocked. Rankin, still piqued over being overridden by his own committee, refused to cast Gibson's deciding vote. The next morning at 10 a.m., the final vote would be taken. If the bill did not pass, it would die.

A desperate effort to get Gibson to Washington began. Since it was wartime, communications were widely curtailed. Unless callers had top priority, there was a six-hour wait for phone lines to Georgia. Special permission — including a lot of stretching the truth about what constituted a "national emergency" — was necessary before the Legion was authorized to make phone calls to people in Georgia who might know how to locate Gibson.

Legion officials used every means at their disposal to cut through red tape and find the lawmaker. Even Georgia radio stations agreed to broadcasting messages seeking infor-

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mation on Gibson's whereabouts.

The Legion's grassroots support became obvious early in the search. The local telephone operator in Gibson's hometown of Douglas did not get an answer when she rang the congressman's number, but she did not stop trying. "My husband just landed in Normandy. I'm with you," the operator said. "I'll find him for you, some way or other."

After a night of frantic phone calls, Gibson was finally located. Priority seating on an Eastern Airlines' flight was arranged, and a daredevil drive in an Army staff car through an intense thunderstorm brought him to the airport. Gibson flew to Washington and, red-eyed and angry, he stormed into the committee meeting the next day at 10 a.m. sharp and cast the vote that broke the deadlock.

ON JUNE 12, the Senate passed the revised bill, followed the next day by the House. On June 22, 1944, flanked by Stelle, Sullivan, Colmery, National Adjutant Donald G. Glascoff and Ralph Mitchell, PNC Atherton's aide, President Franklin Roosevelt signed the GI Bill into law.

Today, the GI Bill of Rights has been battered by age and weakened by half a century of attacks from lawmakers who take veterans and their families for granted. Millions of veterans took advantage of the original GI Bill and became productive Americans. Hopefully, millions more will have the same chance, but the current Montgomery GI Bill is a pale copy of its former self, nothing like its powerful predecessor.

The Montgomery GI Bill pays less than half the cost of most college tuitions, compared to the original, which paid nearly all tuition costs. In addition, today's GIs have to contribute to it during their first year of duty, unlike veterans of earlier eras.

It's little wonder fewer and fewer veterans are taking advantage of it. They simply can't afford to go to college on the \$400 a month stipend afforded by the Montgomery GI Bill. Some have described it as "just barely better than nothing."

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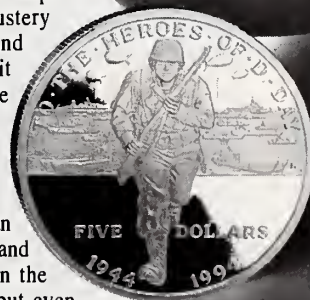
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KIDS & COMPUTERS

Continued from page 25

a lot yourself, and even then you don't have all the answers. The kids enjoy the fact that we're partners in learning, instead of my ordering them through a morass of facts."

In fact, many of the subjects Pershing covers don't have simple textbook

answers. Using other software, such as a simulation program called Stella, her students make computer models of population growth, global warming and the spread of AIDS.

And with an experienced teacher, middle schoolers like Emily can start graphing deer populations within a few minutes.

"These kids are bombarded with negatives," Pershing says. "Violence is the number one hot topic. And one thing I want to communicate to them is that in class we're talking about real

people, real lives, a world at stake." Her hope is that her on-line students will learn to analyze the problems and grow up "proactive instead of passive."

Today's computer-savvy youngsters, however, didn't drive up the ramp toward the information super highway with any global issues in mind. In fact, a typical private school like Byte Sized Computing offers some of the honky-tonk attraction of an arcade. But a closer look at the screens reveals that what's going on is more than play.

Chris Thayer, 10, a fourth grader at the Midland School in Rye, N.Y., is building a six-story apartment house in full color, using a computer-aided-design (CAD) program called Kid CAD.

On the screen it looks like Tinkertoys or Leggos, but with dozens of sound effects, from the moan of wind in trees to the squeak of swings in a playground.

Kids decide whether to build in a city, town or on a farm. Cars scoot along roads between the sites. By moving the objects around, Chris learns basic math concepts like area, volume and ratios. From there Chris can learn Architecture 101 lessons, Curatola says, like "building in the city versus building in a town, and how to use prefab parts."

Other pieces of software Chris has used are a little more academic — one is on dinosaurs, the other an encyclopedia.

Actually, "software" doesn't seem the right word. These two programs come on hard, silvery compact disks called CD-ROMs (pronounced *see-dee-rom*), which stands for "compact disk — read only memory." Like their musical cousins, compact disks, the information on CD-ROMs can't be changed or erased.

Their major advantage is their capacity. A single disk can store the equivalent of nearly 100 Bibles. What makes Chris and his peers happy is that CD-ROMs store a lot more than words. They store film and sound clips, photos, maps, animated diagrams and charts, as well as music. These programs, and the computers that can play them back, are called multi-media.

For example, Microsoft Dinosaurs offers short videos of dinosaurs. Chris can choose a video that reviews evidence that dinos may be related to today's birds. Clicking on another choice from the main menu will take him on a fossil-hunting expedition,

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narrated by an Indiana Jones-like tour guide. All the while, clear color photos or diagrams flash on the screen.

"I like this," Chris says after half an hour of viewing dino pictures and listening to narration and wild animal noises. "I could use it to write a report." He also likes Microsoft's Encarta, a multi-media encyclopedia that augments its standard encyclopedia articles with hundreds of pictures and maps, two-dozen videos (from baseball to a Venus's-flytrap in action), 70 animated diagrams (from the phases of the moon to a volcano) plus more than eight hours of audio (including samples of 60 languages).

But some of the new software doesn't always fly with educators, even those who are enthusiastic about the role of computers in the classroom.

For example, "drill and practice" computer programs that simply reward right answers to arithmetic problems are "an enormous waste of money," says Barbara T. Bowman, vice president for programs at the Erikson Institute for Advanced Study in Child Development in Chicago. For repetitious exercises, computers are no better than paper worksheets teachers

copy and kids fill out in pencil, she says.

The best use of computers, Bowman says, is to allow students to create something on their own — an on-screen picture of a farm, for toddlers through kindergarten, or a science report crafted on a multimedia program, for older students. She says elementary-school classrooms should never load up with computers at the expense of venerable basics like blocks or paints.

BUT at their best, educators agree, these programs are the perfect tools for a generation primed and eager to use them. "I would hope today's students will turn out to be much better decision makers," says Timothy R. Lucas, principal of the Willard School in Ridgewood, N.J. There, every one of his 418 students works out regularly on the school's 60 computers.

Already, he says, they're writing better. "They're understanding processes — how things work — other than just memorizing facts."

As adults, Lucas predicts they'll base civic decisions on a much wider foundation than voters do today, "not

just the six o'clock news or the front page of the paper," Lucas says. "They're learning that sometimes you have to look on page three or page four to find the important trends." To Lucas, these latest pieces of technology are "tools we'll need for the 21st Century."

Lucas got a good look at the world of the next millennium one day last year, when a terrorist bomb rocked the World Trade Center in New York City. Seven parents of children in his school worked in the building. Earlier generations of students might have watched TV stations try, as best they could, to cover this breaking news story.

But Lucas' students went right to a computer connected to a news wire information service. They easily programmed it to sift out all news except the raw dispatches from the blast scene. The youngsters quickly drew reassurance from reports dispelling rumors of heavy casualties. Fortunately, none of their parents were injured.

But all day long, in a pattern that will be repeated throughout the rest of their lives, the flow of information never stopped. □

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According to the federal law called the Spousal Impoverishment Act of 1988, if one spouse requires extended nursing home care, the healthy spouse can be forced to surrender HALF of their combined countable assets. And if you have a sizable estate, they can legally take MORE THAN HALF.

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POLLUTING

Continued from page 22

The idea of mechanically aiding natural cleansing has spawned a variety of ideas, including such "Buck Rogers" solutions as orbiting a gigantic foam sphere, a great "Nerf" ball in space. The hope is that wandering particles — and not functioning satellites — would imbed themselves in the

foam sphere, which could then be sent down to burn up in the atmosphere.

Other ideas long on imagination but short on practicality include vaporizing debris with a powerful laser, attaching drag devices to larger bodies, which would hasten their descent into the atmosphere, or attaching tethers to an object and dragging it into a different orbit. But none of these ideas seem economical and effective to clean up the mess we've left behind.

One proposal that has received some serious attention is Autonomous Space Processor for Orbital Debris

(ASPOD). It resembles a small umbrella surrounded by highly reflective mirrors, with a system of focusing lenses, a long robotic arm and other paraphernalia. The creation of Kumar Ramohalli, an aerospace and mechanical engineer at the University of Arizona, ASPOD would be launched into a cluttered orbit and use an in-board computer to seek out pieces of debris. A focused beam of sunlight then would cut up debris, which would be stored for later disposal.

Don Kessler of the Johnson Space Center says it's an interesting concept, but also a very expensive one. "I think the problem would have to get a lot worse before any of these technologies would become practical," he says.

If the space mess can't soon be cleaned up, it is still possible to avoid adding to it. For example, the Motorola Corporation plans to launch a series of 66 communications satellites in 1996. To minimize debris from these satellites, Motorola hopes to propel each satellite down out of orbit at the end of its useful life. Because of the extra cost, other satellite manufacturers have yet to follow Motorola's lead.

But there are signs that public and private space agencies are beginning to hear the wake-up call. Since 1988, the U.S. National Space Policy has called for a national and international effort to minimize the creation of space debris. The European Space Agency and the Japanese space program also have become concerned about the debris problem.

In August 1993, the first meeting of an international group was held under the auspices of the National Research Council to study space debris. Composed of scientists from the United States, Canada, Russia, Germany and Japan, the group was expected to issue its report and recommendations in late spring or early this summer.

If nothing is done about the debris, many scientists believe it might be only 10 years before certain orbits become unusable by satellites and inaccessible to humans, thus closing off the last frontier for the foreseeable future.

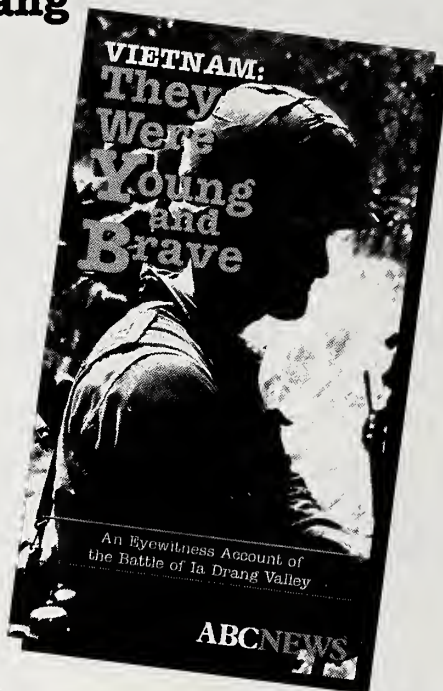
"There is one point that I find encouraging," says Kessler. "We are stepping outside our historical record here on Earth by addressing this problem before it becomes critical.

"That's something we've never been noted for doing with environmental issues. That gives me a good deal of hope that we will be able to deal with the problem before it becomes overwhelming." □

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POSSESSED

Continued from page 33

questions among experts in the field of human motivation:

- At what point does self-help become self-hurt?

- To what extent does today's brand of self-help open us up to all sorts of attitudes that are anything but helpful?

- In our passion for curing what's allegedly wrong with us, do we end up glossing over what's right with us?

Objective data on the worth of self-help is hard to find. It's not a subject on which the National Institutes of Health or Centers for Disease Control are apt to invest billions of research dollars. Still, in raising the foregoing questions, self-help critics make a number of insightful points:

- The icons of self-help enjoy a credibility that may not be deserved.

"There's a tendency on the reader's part to think that these people are unimpeachable authorities speaking gospel truths," says Steven Wolin, professor of psychiatry at George Washington Uni-

versity Hospital. And often, according to Wendy Kaminer, author of the satirical book, *I'm Dysfunctional, You're Dysfunctional*, the only difference between a self-help reader and a self-help writer is that "the writer can write well enough to get a book deal." In Kaminer's view, the end result is that people make sweeping changes in their lives based on advice that is no better than "something their aunt or their auto mechanic could have told them."

Sometimes worse, as dieters discovered in the '70s and '80s when they undertook highly touted, do-it-yourself weight-loss programs that were dangerously deficient in nutrition. At least 17 people died as a direct result of these poorly conceived fad diets before the FDA stepped in.

"Only in America," sighs David Blankenhorn of the Institute for American Values. "We are the least credential-conscious society in the free world. Just hang out a shingle and you're an expert. It's pretty scary when you've got people making major decisions based on the *Oprah Winfrey Show*."

- At one time, people used to shrug off a bad day as just a bad day. There was always tomorrow.

That uplifting realization is the very

source of strength that self-helpers underrate, says Blankenhorn. "Instead of just looking at ourselves as being in a rut, they teach us to see ourselves as having a lifelong condition of some sort."

Massachusetts researcher Brodsky finds it significant that, as reported by *American Health* in 1992, 90 percent of the 38 million living Americans who have quit smoking did so on their own, not through the popular support groups. Compare that statistic with the recidivism rate for alcoholism. Despite the widespread acceptance of AlAnon, and the prevalence of other recovery programs designed to conquer chemical dependency, only one in 35 alcoholics is able to give up drinking for good, according to a 1992 report in *The Nation* magazine.

Brodsky says the self-fulfilling fatalism of the self-help movement is clearly obvious in its terminology. "People are always 'in recovery.' They're never officially recovered," he says. Too often, the end result is self-pity — what author Kaminer calls a "woe is me attitude" — rather than a pull-yourself-up-by-the-bootstraps outlook.

This leads to what critics of the

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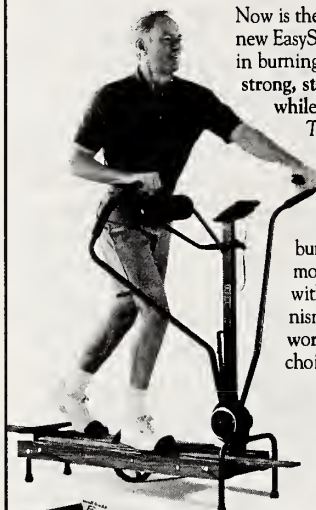
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POSSESSED

Continued from page 63

movement call the "cop-out syndrome." People not only explain their past failings in terms of their supposed disability, but lay the groundwork for current and future failings as well. *I'm an adult child of an alcoholic, the thinking goes, so therefore what can you expect of me?*

Such philosophical criticism seems to be corroborated by a RAND Corp. study of adolescents who attended AlAnTeen meetings. Although the majority of the kids did show short-term improvements in schoolwork, most settled back to their old ways within a year, and 36 percent actually did worse after the seminars.

At its worst, notes Brodsky, the recovery movement actually creates victims, taking people who are basically normal and persuading them that they're haunted by deep-seated demons. "Under the guise of trying to help, what you're actually doing is implanting insecurities that weren't there before," Brodsky says.

- Self-help relies on self-diagnosis, critics claim. You enroll in the group that you think is appropriate. Unfortunately, it may not be the best group for your purposes. Brodsky feels this may be harmful in the same way that medical quackery is harmful: It deters people from seeking legitimate cures.

He says a significant number of women are "clinically depressed" with biochemical imbalances that require medical intervention and structured counseling. "But they're led to believe they're just suffering from 'women's problems' that can be eliminated by attending some workshop and letting off steam," Brodsky says.

Psychiatry professor Wolin also challenges many self-help seminars because they are so broad-based and impersonal. He notes that psychotherapy has a chancy success rate even in a one-on-one setting over a period of years. How can you expect to "break a lifetime of bad behavioral habits" through a couple of banquet hall seminars? he asks.

Of more questionable value are the *phone-in* self-help shows such as the highly rated Los Angeles gabfest hosted by physician Dr. David Viscott. Psychologist Brothers feels that making forthright recommendations about someone's circumstances in the

absence of all relevant background material is "irresponsible. You can cause people to take steps that are totally wrong for their situation."

The danger, says author Wendy Kaminer, is that many self-help programs lump serious problems with less serious ones.

For instance, she attacks programs that "put parental nagging on a par with sexual abuse." David Blankenhorn of the Institute of American Values agrees. When you take a man who spans his son once after a bad day at the office and lump him with fathers who inflict chronic, life-threatening abuse on their families, "it dilutes the impact of those more tragic types of abuse."

Wolin cites figures that show child abuse is on the rise despite all the counseling and well-intentioned publicity. But he says, "A case can be made that when you start calling everything 'abuse,' a certain numbness sets in. No one takes it seriously anymore."

• Another slam at self-help is that it lowers standards by redefining failure — even crime — as "dysfunction."

"The logic," says radio commentator and former San Diego mayor Roger Hedgecock, "is that no one is responsible for his actions on a personal basis. We blame everything we do wrong on our upbringing or on some facet of the environment that has screwed us up."

One clear example is the loopholes that exist in the criminal justice system, especially where serious crimes are concerned. "No question, it's getting harder to enforce felony statutes because more 'environmental circumstances' and psychological alibis are being admitted as evidence," says Paul Pfingst, former star prosecutor in New York and San Diego.

The problem has even extended to the workplace. As alcoholism and drug abuse are increasingly seen as "diseases," companies have a harder time getting rid of troublesome employees.

A personnel officer for Wells Fargo Bank complains that if someone is an alcoholic or a substance abuser, "there's almost no limit to what they can do without being fired, as long as they're willing to undergo treatment." All of which can destroy morale among the rest of the staff.

Certainly the self-help movement has had its triumphs: notably Alcoholics Anonymous and support groups for battered wives or abused children. Mothers Against Drunk Driving has become a powerful voice for legislative change, as have Victims for Victims and Parents of Murdered Children.

And in an era of budget-slicing,

properly managed self-help programs can be a low-cost alternative to government intervention. Former President Jimmy Carter's homebuilding program in areas of the rural South is a prime example. As is Handicapped Users Exchange, a computer bulletin board designed to supplement municipal aid by providing support, information and other forms of interaction for the wheelchair-bound.

"There's a lot of good happening out there," says Hedgecock, "and that's why it's a shame that so much of it gets lumped in with the oddball stuff."

Fortunately, in the view of Hedgecock, Wolin and others, a long-overdue

backlash against the more outlandish aspects of the self-help craze appears well underway. In essays and talk shows nationwide, people are rebelling against the notion that we are all "damaged goods." As *Boston Globe* columnist Mark Muro put it, many Americans are simply "sick of being sick."

That's as it should be, says Blankenhorn. "Americans have this Utopian notion that if we only do certain things, we can be happy all the time. That's just not so. We need to reach a level of acceptance of what life is about. There's pain and there's struggle that's inherent in living. It doesn't mean the fault lies within us." □

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COAST GUARD

Continued from page 31

The day wore on, and the Coast Guardsmen continued to brave intense German fire to deliver troops and supplies to the beaches. By late afternoon, with the assistance of Navy destroyers serving as mobile artillery, the German guns were finally silenced and the Allied troops began to move inland.

During D-Day, Coast Guard LSTs also landed British troops and equipment at the Sword, Juno and Gold invasion beaches. Meanwhile, Coast Guard patrol/rescue craft working under heavy fire off the Normandy coast rescued more than 400 men from disabled landing craft and downed airplanes; towed damaged vessels to safety; and evacuated wounded men to the transports.

By the end of their operations, they had pulled 1,437 men and one nurse from the frigid waters of the English Channel.

In the days following the invasion, Coast Guard vessels continued to ferry reinforcements and supplies from Great Britain to the beaches, returning with wounded and, more and more frequently, German prisoners.

The U.S. Coast Guard's contributions during D-day have often been overlooked. But, as in North Africa, Sicily, Italy and throughout the Pacific, the Coast Guard played an essential role in the success of the massive invasion on June 6, 1944. □

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COMRADES IN DISTRESS

Readers who can help these veterans are urged to write a witness letter, including the CID number. Send the letters to CID, The American Legion Magazine, Box 1055, Indianapolis IN 46206.

Notices are published only at the requests of American Legion Service Officers representing claimants using Search for Witness Forms available from Department Legion Service Officers.

3704th Trn. Sq., 3700th Basic Trn. Wing Donald L. Stauffer needs witnesses to verify that while in basic training at Lackland AFB, San Antonio, Texas, between July 7-10, 1948, he went to the base hospital for 55 days because of pneumonia. Contact CID 1240.

C Co., 382nd Inf. Ray Hamilton needs witnesses to verify that while in combat in Okinawa/Philippines during WWII he was shielding a wounded buddy with his body during a mortar attack when he was hit in the back with a 90 lb. piece of concrete. Contact CID 1241.

USS Atakapa ATF-149 Conlay Branham needs witnesses to verify that while stationed aboard USS Atakapa from July 1951 to March 1955 he was exposed to extremely loud noises while standing duty in the engine room. Contact CID 1242.

IN SEARCH OF...

This column is for readers searching for groups of veterans for purposes other than forming a reunion (use VETS column) or to find witnesses to verify VA health claims (use COMRADES IN DISTRESS column). No notices seeking information about relatives or friends will be published. Notices are published free, on a space-available basis.

Class photo and roster of Jump School Class 29, February 1953, Fort Benning. Contact: John M. Pratt Jr., 6146 Coldbrook Ave., Lakewood, CA 90713-1028. (310) 867-0763.

Crew of the YMS-100 minesweeper in overhaul at the Astoria Marine Construction Co. yards in mid-1945, for historical research. Contact: Lewis Bowers Sr., 800 Covered Bridge Rd., Rogue River, Ore., 97537. (503) 582-1306.

Families of the crew of the submarine USS Golet, which went down with all hands aboard in June 1944. Have photos and information to give away. Contact: Joseph J. Ferrara, 355 Norwood Ave., Warwick, RI 02888. (401) 467-9455.

First-hand information on German POW camp at Wright Field, Dayton, Ohio. Contact: W.H. Oldfield, 2127 Harwath Rd., Columbus, OH 43221.

GIs who served at Camp Concordia, Kan., 1943-45, for book and museum. Contact: Lowell A. May, 618 E. 15th St., Concordia, KS 66901. (913) 243-3722.

Information about the 120th Inf. Rgt. in the defensive sector during WWI. Contact: Raymond B. Hall, 218 Cherokee Rd., Bristol, VA 24201.

Information on Norman Palge, who met Ernie Pyle, April 7-9, 1945, on Okinawa. Contact: Russell Bradford, 395 W. 6th St., #206, San Pedro, CA 90731.

Information on the 9th Aldrome Sq. in England, 1943-44. Records destroyed in fire. Contact: Charles E. Duffy, 46 Church St., Rouses Point, NY 12979.

Please turn to page 71

LIFE MEMBERSHIPS

Life Membership notices are published for Legionnaires who have been awarded Life Memberships by their posts.

Life membership notices must be submitted on official forms which may be obtained by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Life Memberships, The American Legion Magazine, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis IN 46206.

J.C. Frisbie, Jasper L. Robinett (1993) Post 26, Anniston, AL

W.S. Allen, Wilburn D. Hammonds, Tad C. Jones, Donovan Montgomery, Dean D. Sybrant, Harvey A. Wallace (1993) Post 259, Paradise, CA

Walter R. Carey (1993) Post 146, Bethlehem, CT

Richard Andrews, Manuel Auerbach, Thomas Collins, Leno R. Delmolino, N.E.J. Dessez, Gertrude Duval, Earle Frazier, Thomas Frere, Richard Glasson, Ben Goodman (1993) Post 32, Washington, DC

John T. Barnes (1994) Post 78, Milton, FL

Robert G. Munch (1994) Post 81, Melbourne, FL

Simon R. Brush, Gerald W. Clark (1993) Post 173, Hollywood, FL

Larry Phillips (1993) Post 210, Anka, IA

Leo M. Zimmerman (1979) Post 55, Bonners Ferry, ID

Nell F. Dimmick (1993), Russell C. Anderson, Harold D. Bown, Eugene T. Collins, Le Roy Holtz, Ernest W. Johnson, Joseph T. Redditt (1994) Post 288, South Beloit, IL

Duane C. Thompson (1994) Post 332, Rockton, IL

Gary L. Campbell (1993) Post 218, Thornton, IN

Steve Hall (1993) Post 7, Frankfort, KY

Reubin L. Farris (1993) Post 42, Owingsville, KY

Alvin W. Barnes, R. Wayne Mantooth (1993) Post 229, Louisville, KY

James Jones, Raymond L. Jones (1993) Post 194, Rising Sun, MD

Kenneth Schultz (1994) Post 553, Welcome, MN

Andrew V. Kidd, Harold J. Schaerer (1994) Post 177, Eureka, MO

Terry D. Brown (1993) Post 318, Parkville, MO

Don R. LaSalla (1993) Post 1, Raleigh, NC

William J. Dingle, Michael E. Flynn (1988), John P. Marach (1991) Post 491, Sparta, NJ

Woodrow Whalen (1980), George W. Swisher (1992), Earl F. Youngren (1993) Post 10, Las Cruces, NM

Harvey E. Taylor (1994) Post 61, Watertown, NY

Veronica J. Blandford, Albert M. Blandford (1993) Post 71, Brewster, NY

Merle Holbrook (deceased), Laban W. Sensabaugh (1993) Post 87, Dansville, NY

Robert M. Laughlin, Gordon O. Putnam, Melvin F. Salgeon (1993) Post 327, Westfield, NY

Paul J. Ickerling III (1993) Post 377, Goshen, NY

Stanley J. Grochowina (1993) Post 535, Salamanca, NY

Edwin L. King (1993) Post 574, Hudson Falls, NY

Aldo Valentini (1993) Post 950, Phenicia, NY

Peter A. Faucetta, Felix Subervi (1989), George Slegrist (1993) Post 1066, Massapequa, NY

Robert T. Atkinson (1992) Post 1273, Wantagh, NY

Remo Zerega (1993) Post 1310, Staten Island, NY

Dominick Ciaccio, Fredrick Schmitt (1986), John O'Reilly (1991), John Wagner (1993) Post 1404, Broad Channel, NY

John E. Naugle (1985), Richard Morris (1987), Adolf Affler, James L. Davis, Skip Davis, Mariano Procla (1990), Christopher J. Byrnes (1991), John G. Williams (1993) Post 1447, Monsey, NY

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Lloyd F. Shuck (1992) Post 841, Montandon, PA

James P. Best (1990), Norma Barba, Lee Williams

(1994) Post 4, Olongapo City, PI

Franklin Abernathy (1993) Post 16, Gann Valley, S.D.

Alfred J. Barr (1993) Post 277, Vienna, SD

Calvin C. Cheek (1993) Post 19, Columbia, TN

Elwood M. Bell, Gordon L. Brisbin, Joe Fronek, Joe T. Latham, Johnnie H. Mallicoat, Harold G. Rohde (1993) Post 526, Holland, TX

Walter P. Mullin (1990) Post 193, Pacific Beach, WA

Frank E. Goodnough (1993) Post 238, Clinton, WA

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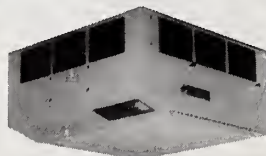
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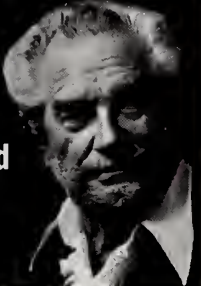
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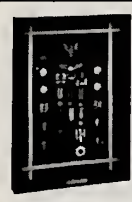
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IN SEARCH OF...

Continued from page 67

Information on the whereabouts of sketch books taken from my duffel bag north of St. Tropez, France, in September 1944, for a book. Contact: Sam Kweskin, 9355 S.W. 8th St., Boca Raton, FL 33428.

Military personnel involved in B-29 crew recovery and salvage north and east of Tokyo after WWII, for a book. Also looking for 1951-52 cruise book of USS Duxbury. Contact: Jerry Halloran, 18425 South Dr., Southfield, MI 48076-1131.

Movie footage, stills, articles, etc. of May 27, 1953, explosion on USS Bennington. Contact David Himelheber, Rancho Antigua, 8787 E. Mtn. View, #1022, Scottsdale, AZ 85258.

Next of kin of Maj. Louis J. Seville, the Air Force's first Medal of Honor recipient who was killed in the Korean War, to attend a rededication of his plaque at Selridge AFB, Mt. Clemens, Mich. Contact: L. De Frain, 521 School St., Harbor Beach, MI 48441-1130. (517) 479-6531.

Photo of USS PT-34 that was destroyed by enemy aircraft at Cellin, City, Cebu, PI, on April 9, 1942. Contact John H. Harris, 1708 Devers Rd., Richmond, VA 23226-2807.

Photos and memorabilia of USS Decatur (DD-936), for research. Contact: Lawrence W. Lee Jr., 45 Durgess St., Staten Island, NY 10304.

Photos of Special Forces MIAs in Southeast Asia, for book. Contact: U.S. Adolph, 1769 Sherwood Ct., Dearborn, MI 48124.

Radiomen stationed at Wallupe/Wahlawa during 1940-45, for a book. Contact: Wilbur Thorpe, 4700 S. Kirkwood, #1513, Houston, TX 77072-1260.

Veterans with Near Death Experiences, for a book. Contact: Fred Hughes, P.O. Box 95, Centerport, NY 11721.

War-related pinback buttons, especially Franklin Roosevelt's, for educational display. Contact: Tom Peeling, P.O. Box 6661, West Palm Beach, FL 33405-0661.

WWII tanker jacket, for a display. Contact: John Grindahl, 1837 16th St. S., Fargo, ND 58103.

WWII veterans who served in France who would like to correspond with French citizens. Contact: Michele Shuey, Rencontre France Amerique, 3996 Mayflower Dr., Murrysburg, PA 15668.



In The Rough

There's the story of the old-timer who loved golf, could still hit the ball but he couldn't see where it went. One day the pro told him, "Charlie, I've got the perfect partner for you. Tom's about your age, and he's got eyes like a hawk."

So the two old guys went out to the first tee, and Charlie hit a long drive. "Did you see where it went?" he asks Tom.

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Slicing Life

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"In order to afford our new house, we each had to take extra jobs — so we don't have much time to spend with our kids — and we had to cut back on food, clothing and entertainment. But it's worth it, as long as we can enjoy a better quality of life."

Sign Of The Times

Sign in a Beverly Hills boutique: *We honor all major credit cards. Some we adore.*

Exclamation Points Extra

Some celebrities these days are getting as much as \$60,000 a speech. That makes a comma alone worth about \$42.

Foreign Affairs

We have to call it *foreign* policy. People wouldn't put up with that kind of policy here at home.

Interplanetary Payroll

Moe: "Scientists say Mars cannot support life as we know it."

Joe: "And when I look at my paycheck each week, I know how it feels."

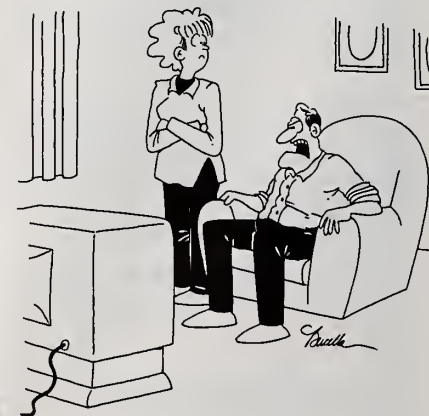
A Lot Of Lot

Isn't it wonderful! Months ahead of schedule, California officials proudly re-opened the world's largest parking lot, which had been damaged in the Los Angeles earthquake. It's called The Santa Monica Freeway.

Gem Note

"Diamonds are nothing more than chunks of coal that stuck to their jobs."

*Malcolm Forbes
Publisher of Forbes*



"I don't know which one is Beavis or which is Butt-head. I don't watch C-Span that much."

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